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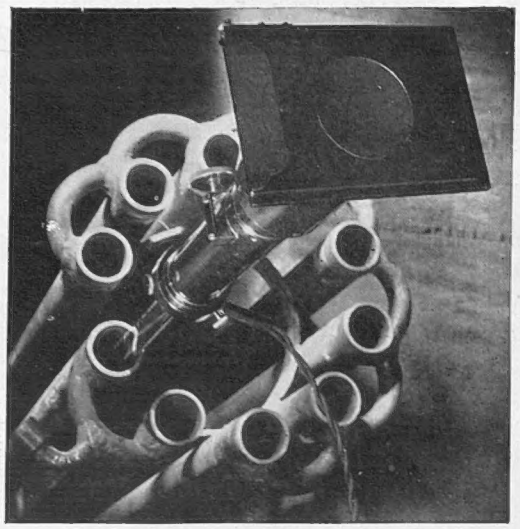

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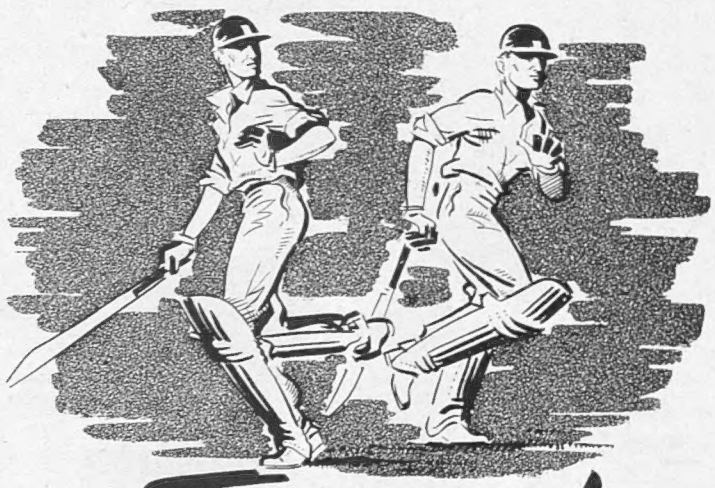

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Volume CLXXXIX No. 2470 The SPHERE, London, June 7, 1947

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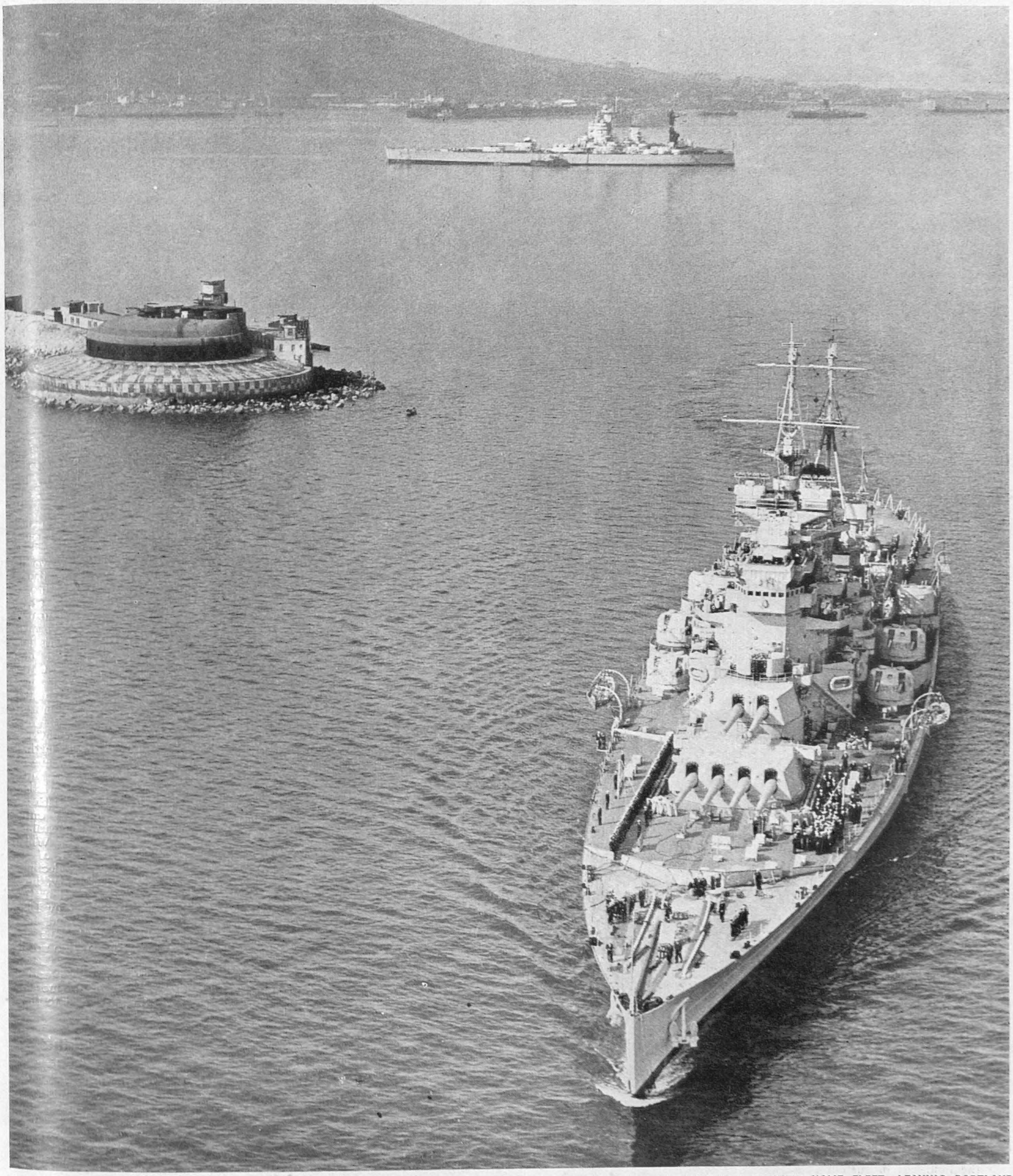

TO SHOW THE FLAG IN SCANDINAVIAN PORTS—THE BATTLESHIP "DUKE OF YORK," FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, HOME FLEET, LEAVING PORTLAND FOR STAVANGAR: Later in the month she will be at Moldy and Christiansand, and will reach Rosyth on June 27 at the start of a round-Britain cruise which will bring her back to Portland in July via Scapa Flow and the Clyde

This year the Navy is returning to a marked degree to its old peacetime routine, and the Home Fleet, which left Portland last week-end for a one-day exercise at sea, has now divided up and many of its units are visiting European ports. Accompanying the battleship *Duke of York* on her Norwegian cruise are the destroyers *St. James's* and *St. Kitts*, while the cruiser *Dido* will be going to Stockholm. The cruiser *Sirius*, with the destroyers *Myngs* and *Dunkirk*, are visiting Belgian and Dutch ports. *Sirius* will be in Amsterdam on June 11, afterwards journeying on to Kiel, and the *Myngs* and *Dunkirk* will go to Rotterdam. The *Duke of York*, sister-ship of the *King George V*, has a displacement of 35,000 tons, and, like the *Vanguard*, but in a less degree, has specially strengthened anti-aircraft defences

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

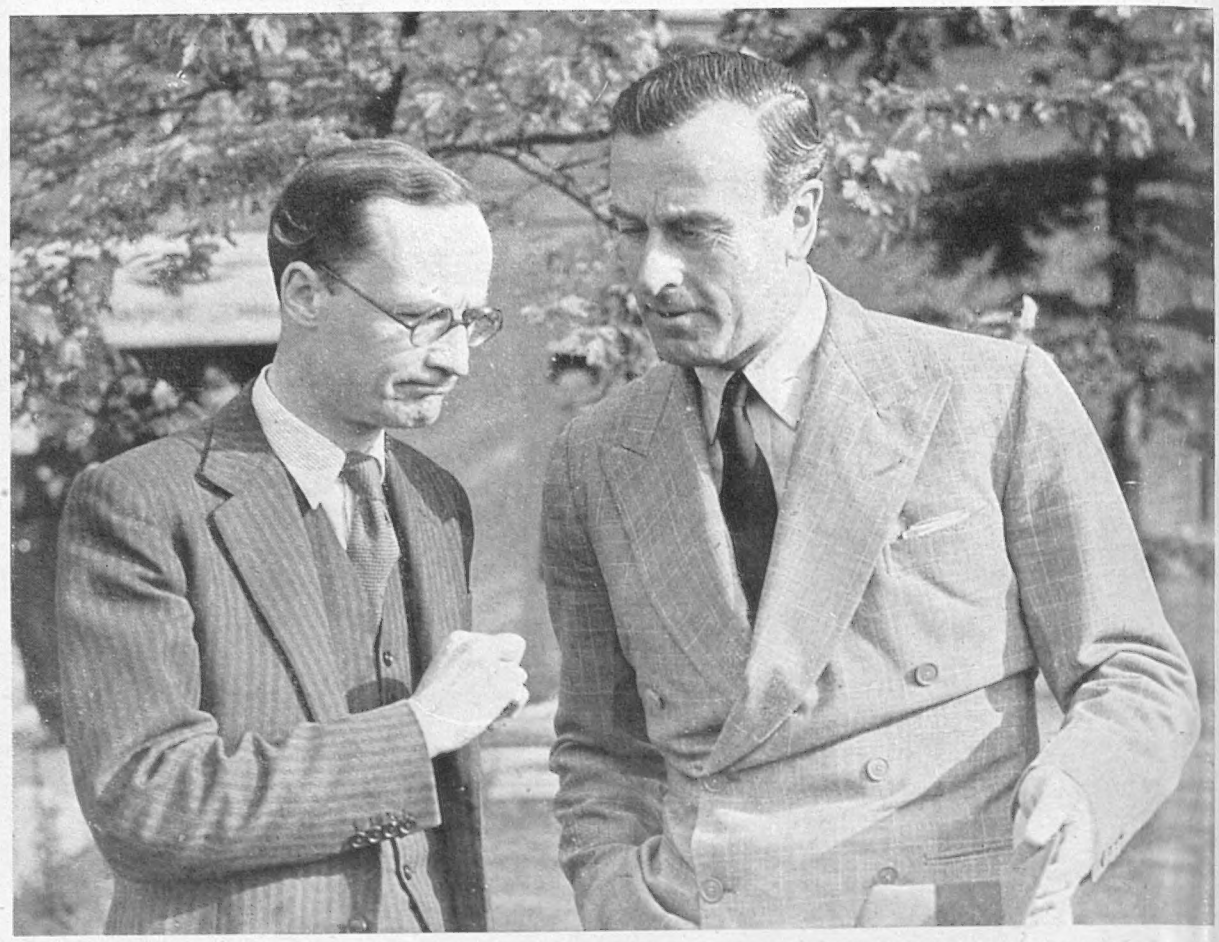
1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Margate Commentary.—

Both Mr. Morrison and Dr. Dalton in their arguments at Margate gave evidence of second thoughts. Both seemed to realise that rather more attention to "justice for all," whether classes or types of workers, must be the keynote of the next year of Socialist rule, if the great experiment is to continue for another term. These two, who in the past two years have seldom denied themselves a chance for party propaganda, even on the most national of questions, would appear to have come to the conclusion that the "rich" cannot be further squeezed, that the middle- and fixed-income classes have been so roughly handled that their votes are no longer as safe for Socialism as in '45, and that with an eye on the next election, the screws in both cases must be slightly relaxed. Then again, the favouring of one class of worker in industry, as an emergency inducement to greater output, quite obviously won't do, if too openly done. Such a policy will evoke—already has evoked—bitter jealousy. Pet the miners and the transport workers will be up in arms. No one unit of heavy labour will play second fiddle to another. For election purposes, "cry havoc and let loose the dogs of class war" is an obvious line. The trouble is to kennel or re-leash. The Socialist Government knows quite as well as the Opposition what to-day is the one thing needful, without which they, and all they stand for and hope for, must shipwreck—to teach the workers, buoyed up by fantastic promises and morally weakened by wars, that an honest day's work (on a pre-war standard) is not only desirable as a habit, not only the best specific for a good or a happy life, but is absolutely, urgently, instantly needed to avert the utter ruin of Socialist hopes and of the nation's stability. The *survival* of Britain now depends on getting that unpalatable idea across in quick time and into the heads of millions of unbelievers who still dream of a millennium; which is as substantial as many another election promise.

Mr. Bevin Triumphs.—

Mr. Bevin felt the heat and generated some of it at Margate. The result was the rout of his critics and a personal triumph for himself. Whatever may be his future—he is no longer young nor as physically fit as he was in the '30's—he means, *D.V.*, to remain Foreign Secretary over November, from which fateful month he hopefully anticipates more decisions and fewer wordy wrangles. And God send his optimism is justified. He began "ever so quietly." He warmed up soon enough. The loudest roar of appreciation greeted his: "Just at the moment when I was trying in America to increase our bread ration, I was stabbed in the back by our own people in the House of Commons." The crowd roared, and the rebels, great Cæsar's assassins, "fled like madmen through the gates of Rome" . . . until next time. But indeed Mr. Bevin need not have warmed up. He was in no danger at all. He has a warm place in every heart. Indeed, his chief danger with his own party is the warmth of affection felt for him by the Opposition. Unique in Mr. Attlee's team, he is acknowledged on all hands as a typical John Bull, a Churchill in modern dress. Naturally there will always be terriers snapping at the hind-legs of such a rare and leonine figure. There must be something "suspicious" in a Socialist Minister whom "even the ranks of Tuscany can scarce forbear to cheer." So it was with Jim Thomas and Ramsay Mac. But I don't think Bevin has a foot in two camps. It is only that he has a sense of, and a love of, Britain's traditions and her former greatness and influence. And, like you and I, he thinks those things worth fighting for.



LAST WORDS ON INDIA—THE EARL OF LISTOWEL, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, AND VISCOUNT MOUNTBATTEN, THE VICEROY, HOLDING A FINAL CONVERSATION BEFORE THE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR NEW DELHI: While the Viceroy prepared to return, carrying with him the Cabinet's approval of his plan for the transference of power to the Indian people, there was a feeling of tension and anxiety throughout the sub-Continent. In one part of the Punjab a miniature civil war was reported to be developing. On Monday the Viceroy met the Indian party leaders and the Princes

Courts-Martial Scrapped.

—Far be it from me to condemn all reforms under Socialist rule. This country still needs a vast amount of overhauling for the scrapping of antiquated and rotten institutions, and among these the system of courts-martial cried out for reform. I have no more poignant and tragi-comic memories than those of World War I courts-martial on which I sat as a subaltern, notably under Major X, of the Blank Hussars. He was a fine horse-master, and on that account, no doubt, was so often chosen to be President of courts-martial in the field. I well remember my first nervous appearance in the role of judge. "Well, you, you're the junior," said Major X. "What do you say he ought to get?" Fresh from a successful passing of my Bar examinations, I suggested that a trial should precede a verdict. The Major answered shortly: "The chap wouldn't be *here* if he hadn't done whatever it is." No doubt, that was an extreme case; no doubt, the Major grew in wisdom with practice. I dare say that there were comparatively few miscarriages of justice, because as a race we possess a rough sense of fair play. But the number of verdicts of "guilty" obtained against the weight of evidence and by methods of procedure unimaginable in any Civil Court must always have been high. In Civil Courts scores of guilty men go free because the evidence pointing to conviction is unsufficient; and they rightly go free. I dare say a majority of the minor courts-martial held in the last century were conducted by officers innocent of the ABC of legal procedure and of the rules of evidence, and without any assistance from a deputy J.A.G., or other guidance than that of an unread pamphlet. Such a system should have been scrapped after the South African War. Now, at last, it is likely to be replaced by something akin to a Stipendiary Magistrate's Court; and that is a mirror of High Court procedure in all essentials.

Even the Worm Turns.—

It appears that even authors were thinking of the strike weapon. This evidence that the most patient of all worms will turn at last was disclosed in a memorandum by the Society of Authors and allied Leagues concerning the niggardly terms and high-handed action of the B.B.C. *vis-à-vis* authors and dramatists. A protest meeting confirmed the complaint. And the B.B.C.'s response was instant surrender and a promise of more generous terms. I confess that I thought my fee adequate, when I was persuaded to broadcast. My complaint (as the author of a dozen books) is not indeed against the B.B.C., but against my brother (still more, my sister) authors and journalists. In our profession, dog eats dog. Year after year, I find my own copyrights infringed. Excerpts and whole letters (of which I hold the copyright) are borrowed without permission asked or acknowledgment made by new writers. And those facile young women who debunk our ancestors, are much the worst offenders. They and the journalists have the easiest of consciences. The truth, no doubt, is that an author, if he is to keep his name *alive*, must be to-day a very master of advertisement. He must be, or employ, a Press agent on his own behalf. He must be as shrewd as Walpole, or as reluctantly successful as Barrie, in the gentle art of keeping his name before the public and his books connected with his name. I am not good at it. I confess failure. In the past month I read in the daily Press four verbatim chunks taken from one of my books and printed as the journalist's own "researches" on the reign of King George V; *item*, a biography of a Victorian lady novelist taken direct from one of my prefaces and assumed as her own "original" by the authoress without so much as a note in her bibliography; and, finally, a verbatim transcript of two rare letters by a famous poet, the originals of which I myself discovered, of which I acquired the copyright for a sum of money, and printed in a book with a note to that effect. If authors do these things to one another, it is not so high-handed or so unreasonable that outsiders should hold authors' copyrights (even famous) as cheap at three guineas a thousand words.

A Pastoral Letter.—

Bishop Bell of Chichester is a realist and a man of vision and moral courage. It is a rare thing to hear from the pulpit a pastoral letter read in lieu of the "Parson's Saw." We had one on Whit Sunday, and I think it took effect. The Bishop chose two dates separated by 2,000 years, the first "Whit Sunday" in Palestine, and a typical Sunday morning at, say, Brighton or Worthing in the summer of 1947. On the first date, twelve men set out to convert the world to Christianity. To-day about 12 per cent. of the population of these islands—Catholic, Protestant or Nonconformist—according to the latest statistics available to the Bishop, is all that remains of the hard core of Christianity—the regular Church-goers, the sincere believers and practisers of the Christian faith. Of the 88 per cent. a majority are open, declared disbelievers, or utterly ignorant of the ABC of Christianity. We know from naval statistics how high a proportion of Navy entrants have no idea of the meaning of Christmas Day, Easter or Whitsun. Some had "never heard of Jesus Christ." The nation's decline in decency, in common honesty, in good manners is denounced (and justly so) every day by magistrates, by Divorce Court judges, by parsons and, indeed, all pundits save politicians (who, I suppose, do not care, or do not dare, or have not the time). The vital relationship between the practice of religion by a nation and the moral code of such a nation is proved to the hilt in history.

A Remarkable Link with the Past.—

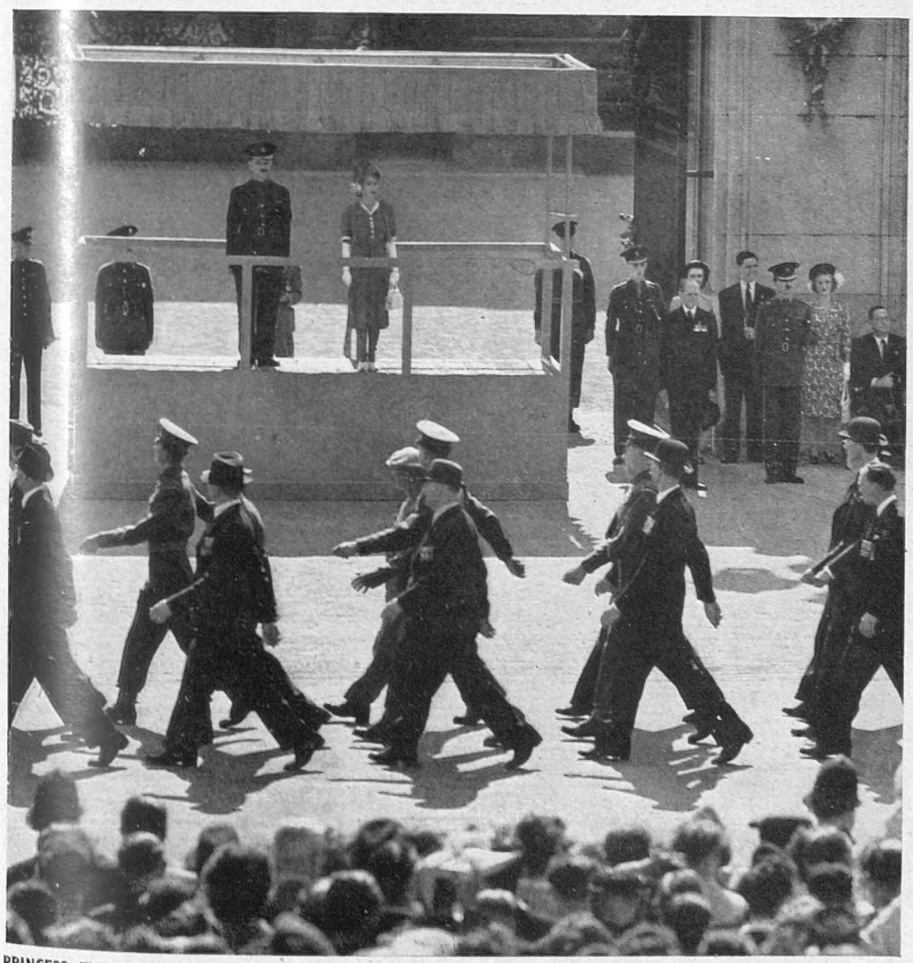
Mary, Lady Knutsford, widow of that Prince of Men and beggars and Hospital organisers, best known and loved as Sydney Holland, died the other day. She survived her husband for sixteen years. She was the youngest daughter of the fourth Earl of Ashburnham, and must be regarded as a very rare link with the past. For her father was born in the eighteenth century, in 1797; and it would not have been impossible for him to have spoken, for example, with men who fought at the battle of Culloden. Perhaps he did so. He was old enough to remember Trafalgar and might well have fought at Waterloo. I wonder how many persons alive to-day can claim an eighteenth century father.

THE OLD STAGER

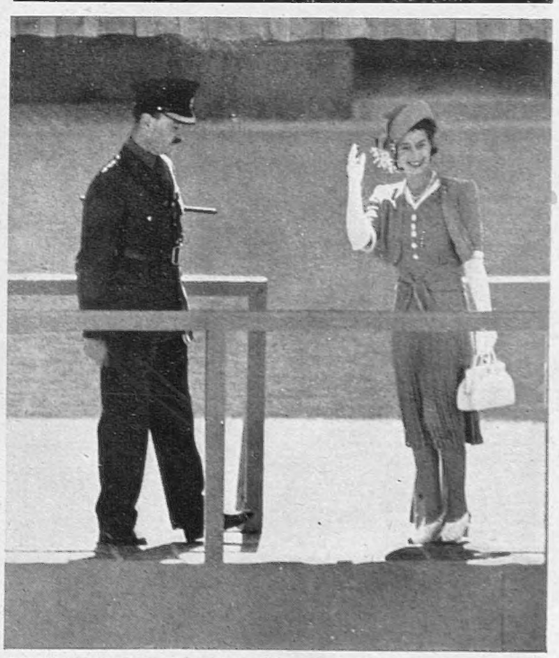
THE DRUM-HEAD SERVICE OUTSIDE THE ROYAL MILITARY CHAPEL, WELLINGTON BARRACKS : An overhead view of last Sunday's service, which was attended by Princess Elizabeth in her capacity as Colonel of the Grenadier Guards. Forming a hollow square round the chairs were members of the Grenadier Guards Comrades' Association, who afterwards took part in a march-past outside Buckingham Palace. The chapel itself is now a mere shell, having been hit by a flying-bomb

PRINCESS ELIZABETH WITH THE GRENADIER GUARDS

A Drum-head Service Followed by a March Past of the Veterans

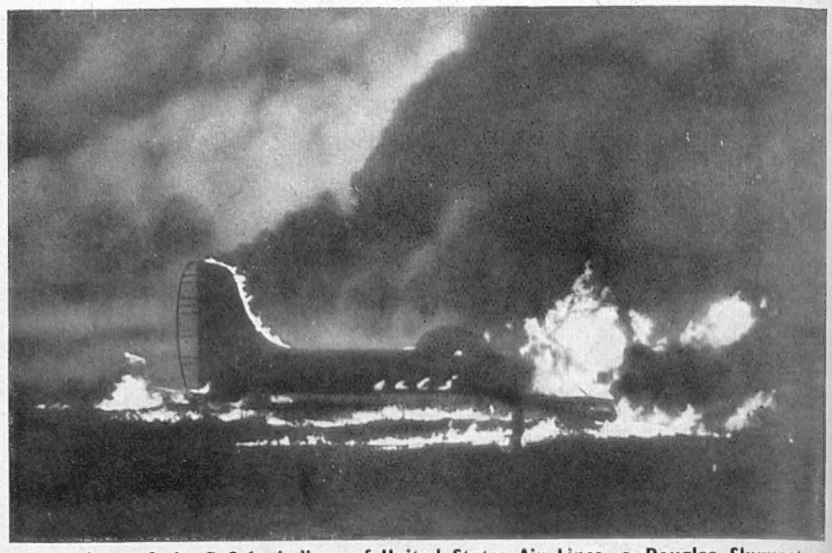


PRINCESS ELIZABETH TAKES THE SALUTE : Old Comrades of the Grenadier Guards passing the saluting dais in front of Buckingham Palace after the drum-head service outside the Royal Military Chapel



ACKNOWLEDGING THE OLD COMRADES OF THE GRENADIERS : Princess Elizabeth waves to the passing ranks from the temporary dais set up in front of the Palace

Princess Elizabeth, whose solo public appearances have become increasingly frequent since her return from South Africa and her twenty-first birthday, was watched by a great crowd from the steps of the Victoria Memorial as she took the salute last Sunday at the march-past of the Old Comrades of the Grenadier Guards. For the occasion a saluting dais was placed between the Palace gates. Earlier on, accompanied by Lady Mary Strachey, the Princess attended the drum-head service of the Grenadiers outside the Royal Military Chapel at neighbouring Wellington Barracks. The service, held just below the steps of the chapel, revived memories of the tragedy in the summer of 1944, when so many lives were lost as a result of a flying-bomb



TRAGEDY AT THE END OF THE RUNWAY: *Left and right*—Two views of the D.C.4 air-liner of United States Air Lines, a Douglas Skymaster, after it had crashed and burst into flames at the end of the runway at LaGuardia Airfield, New York, when about to take off on a non-stop flight to Cleveland, Ohio. Thirty-nine people lost their lives outright, and three more died of their injuries last week-end

42 KILLED in the LAGUARDIA DISASTER

The First of Two Tragic Skymaster Crashes

The disaster at LaGuardia, which is illustrated on this page, was described as the worst air crash in American civil aviation. Within twenty-four hours another Skymaster, an Eastern Airlines machine flying from Newark, crashed at Bainbridge, Maryland, the forty-nine passengers and the crew of four all losing their lives as the machine lost control at 6,000 ft. and dived to earth. The total death-roll for the two disasters was thus ninety-five, and there is no doubt that American public opinion has been deeply shaken, despite the official statement from the Douglas Aircraft Company citing the safety record of its Skymaster aircraft, which, it says, have made more than 85,000 trouble-free crossings of the Atlantic. The LaGuardia crash, the lesser of the two as regards the numbers involved, was particularly terrible owing to the fierceness of the fire, and except for the pilot, who was thrown clear of his cockpit into a pond, all the occupants were burnt. Six of them may recover. The pictures evidence the extent of the blaze, which obtained such a hold so quickly that the appearance of a fire-engine a few minutes after the crash failed to make any appreciable difference. It is understood that there is no question of grounding Skymasters pending inquiries

IT TOOK AN HOUR TO PUT OUT THE FLAMES: Firemen attempting to reach the blazing wreckage of the ill-fated Skymaster which crashed at the end of the LaGuardia runway. The chief pilot of the aircraft, Benton Baldwin, was one of the few survivors. He was thrown clear of the wreck and fell into a pond

THE MORNING AFTER THE SKYMASTER TRAGEDY—ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF THE D.C.4, WHICH CONTINUED THROUGH THE BOUNDARY FENCE OF LAGUARDIA AIRFIELD, CROSSED A ROAD AND CRASHED INTO A POND NEAR THE ACADEMY OF AERONAUTICS: An aeronautical engineer who watched the aircraft warming-up for the take-off, said that there seemed to be much difficulty in starting the two port engines, and the pilot stopped for ten or fifteen seconds before they picked up again. The pilot, who escaped with only minor injuries, stated that the machine showed no signs of lift on reaching the end of the runway

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MASS-PRODUCING THE SEABEE AMPHIBIAN—A U.S. NAVAL RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT ON THE PRODUCTION LINE AT THE REPUBLIC WORKS, FARMINGDALE, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK STATE: On the left are a series of Seabee cockpits and tail units, and on the right these land-sea tractor-type machines are seen with engines, wings and floats. In the background is a four-engined XF-12 under construction, and on the extreme right can be seen part of the Thunderjet assembly line. The Thunderjet, known as the P.84, is America's fastest fighter, and has recorded unofficially a speed of 621 m.p.h. during tests. It is inferior to Britain's Gloster Meteor, as the United States has no engine which really matches the Derwent or the Nene

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AN AIR-LINER DRY-DOCKS AT MACARTHUR FIELD—A TRANSPORT PLANE OF THE AEROPOSTAL VENEZOLANA WITH ENGINE UNITS UNDER COVER WHEN UNDERGOING HEAVY MAINTENANCE REPAIRS AT SAYVILLE, NEW YORK: This is believed to be the first large-scale maintenance and overhaul service for multi-engined craft, and has been inaugurated at MacArthur Field, Sayville, by the Lockheed Aircraft Service, Ltd. Lockheed's have already contracted to maintain 160 machines of the United States Army Air Force and, in addition, numerous internal and oversea air-liners. This picture shows four of the special service docks now in operation. The liner in the rear dock on the right is a K.L.M. (Dutch Line), and in the background are two Argentine transports

BLUEPRINTS FOR A SECOND SUEZ

The Possibility of By-passing the De Lesseps Cut

By FERDINAND TUOHY

ALTHOUGH the existing Suez Canal Concession does not lapse for twenty-one years, long ere then international happenings seem likely to precipitate a show-down in relation to the world's most-used and most strategically important artificial waterway. Events in Egypt and Palestine, together with the fresh alignment of the Great Powers in the Near East, can hardly fail to bring this about.

At the core of the new situation is the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936, under which Britain agreed to leave Egypt, subject to Egypt recognising Britain's special interests in the Canal Zone, in which a prescribed maximum of 10,000 British troops and 200 planes might be retained—and reinforced in event of war.

The outward sign that Britain still stands astride the Suez may be seen in the Royal Air Force runways at Abbassiah and El Kantara. These continue to be landmarks of British prestige and a reminder of how Britain defended the Suez in two world wars on behalf of the majority of nations. A less tangible but equally potent sign is to be found in the number of British-owned ships that use the Canal—3,400 out of every 6,000 vessels of all nations that sail through it.

Yet such signs can have their deceptive side. Far from displaying the slightest inclination to extend Great Britain's 99-year lease of the Canal beyond 1968, the Egyptian Government is pressing for an early and total evacuation, Canal Zone and all.

If this were to come about, where would be the guarantee of continued usage of this main link serving the British Commonwealth of Nations?

True, the old belief on which the Germans depended—that the Suez was the one vital spot where England could be mortally stricken—was disproved when we began to route our war convoys round the Cape—10,500 miles to India instead of 6,000 miles by the shorter way. Yet we know this was a frightfully uneconomical expedient, and an intensely risky one into the bargain. Cleavage of the Suez Isthmus joining the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean remains of capital consequence to the Commonwealth, which is why Egyptian politicians have to be watched so closely by the designers of our Near East policy.

These politicians or the predecessors have long toyed with the notion of taking sole control of the Suez and more or less holding the world to ransom at its two extremities. The celebrated statue of Ferdinand de Lesseps at the Port Said end, showing that citizen of the world signalling humanity into his canal with his top-hat, never did come to life. The heaviest dues were always charged, and they had to be met in gold. Yet they were at least kept within some bounds by the overwhelmingly Franco-British directorate, whereas there 's no guessing what an Egyptian monopoly directorate might not charge.

The temptation would be very great for a country like Egypt, whose present total revenue amounts to only a quarter of the Canal's annual profits. A turn or two of the screw and Egypt could be immeasurably better off financially. It only needs to be said that the British Government's holding of 44 per cent. of the shares means annual dividends of about £40,000,000. Egypt now holds, directly or indirectly, about 15 per cent. of the shares. This brings in a fair amount, but just think of the leap there 'd be if she owned all the shares *and* gave a turn or two to the screw. Britain's £40,000,000 annual profit would be doubled, trebled.

The Suez has all along been a gold-mine for those who were in on the ground floor. Our original investment was of £4,000,000, which now has a market value of £70,000,000. French stockholders draw even more than we do by reason of a special annual tax on Suez stock—the French mainly made and have always run the Canal technically and administratively.

The uncertainty that hovers over the Suez has done nothing to depreciate its stock. Shares rated nominally at £10 and which stood at £70 a year ago, to-day stand at £125. Feverish buying goes on apace, especially by war-enriched Egyptians, and this notwithstanding the obvious and colossal risk to the Canal which the atom bomb carries.

Can the reason be that Egyptians anticipate a lavish bid by the United Nations? There has been talk of U.N.O. taking over the Suez and running it on a non-profit co-operative basis; or else of diverting the profits to the benefit of mankind. One big difficulty, however, would be in finding out who exactly owns the Canal. There is no undisputed list of actual shareholders in existence, short of nominees and other disguises. The whole of that side is a hopeless mix-up, with secret Nazi investments and now Communist ones alleged.

None the less, the fact that the United States are taking the place of Italy as regards tonnage passing through the Canal, and Russia that of Japan, does strengthen the case for an international solution to Suez.

Egypt. The United Nations. How else might the future of the Suez be governed?

There is a third way. What if Britain and the United States refused to be at the mercy of Egypt and got together over the construction of a substitute canal? A far finer waterway that would seriously dent the distended profits of the old Suez? Compared with the sweat and death that marked de Lesseps' ten years construction of his giant ditch by the use of human ant labour in the burning sun, a new canal could be humanely dug by the latest mechanical methods in from three to four years, at a cost, so it is averred, of £20,000,000—little more than Britain alone has to pay in present canal dues over a period of four years.

The Palestine Government has had two different sets of proposals before it and one has reached the blueprint stage. Each has assumed greatly added importance since the chances of Anglo-Egyptian agreement have receded.

The first proposal dates from just before the war and relates to a project for a canal linking the Red Sea port of Akaba with Gaza. This would by-pass the Suez and not be more than a third as long again (the Suez is 106 miles long). Not for nothing did Lawrence of Arabia once make a famous ride to Akaba—from near Gaza, as it happened. For rare, discriminating tourists Akaba may be just a palm-blessed old Arab port dominated by a mediæval castle built to protect pilgrims on their way to Mecca. For dealers in strategy, Akaba sticks out a mile.

Early last year the Akaba-Gaza Project held the field—or desert—and parties of engineers were sent south from Jerusalem to execute the first surveys. It was even reported that a great cement factory near Jerusalem was being subsidised with a view to its providing material for the proposed desert waterway. But something happened to lessen official enthusiasm for Gaza-Akaba. Was it geological or kindred practical hindrances? Possibly. What is certain is that a substitute project has since come to prevail.

This second project is a child of the brain of Dr. Werber, assistant to Dr. Lowdermilk, of the Jordan Valley Authority, and it makes for the linking of Akaba with Haifa. The distance covered by this canal would be notably longer. It would be 240 miles, or well over twice as long as the Suez. But there would be palpable compensations.

Haifa is a fine new modern port and one which Britain is likely to stick on to until the last, whatever happens with the Arabs and the Jews. By contrast, Gaza has hardly any port facilities at all. A canal terminating at Haifa would, therefore, have the big initial advantage of direct and capacious access to Mediterranean shipping.

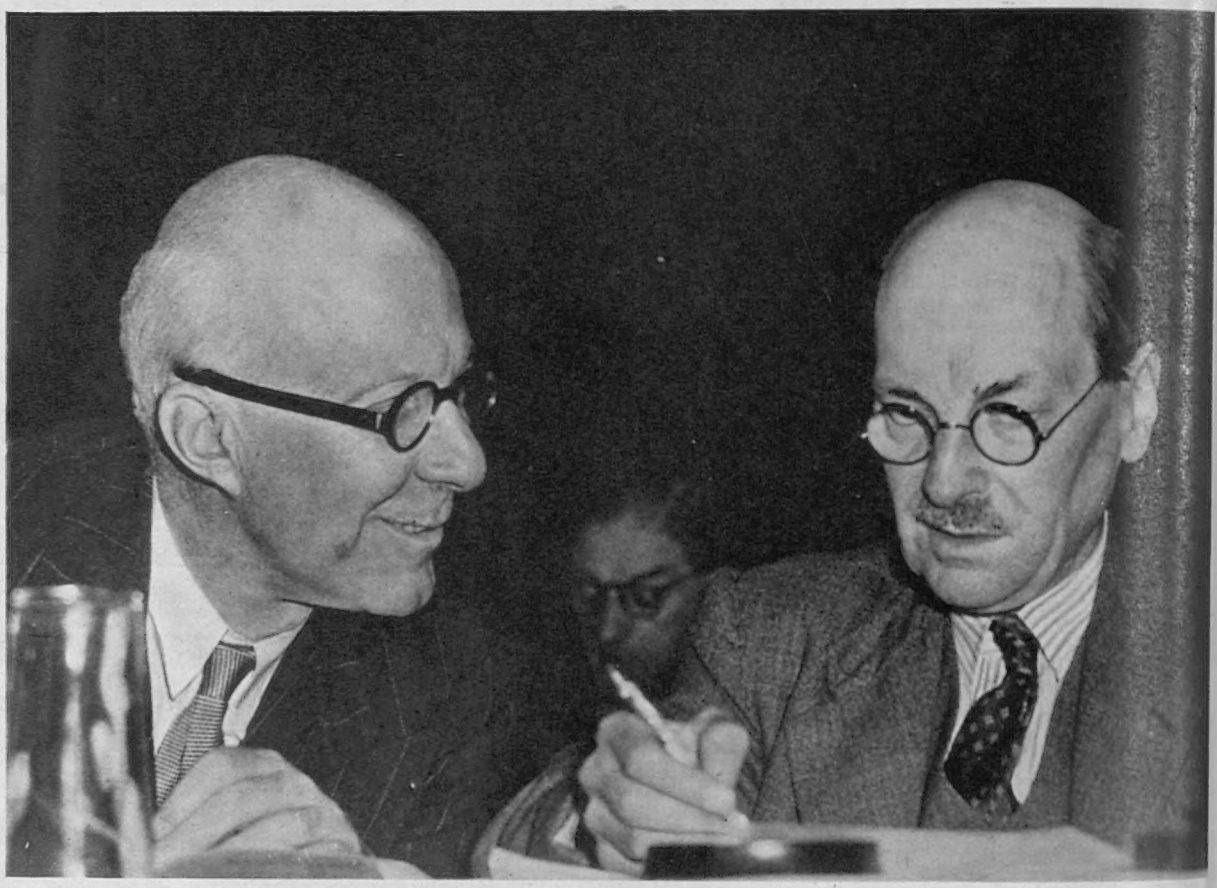
From Haifa the proposed substitute for the Suez would follow the Valley of Jezreel as far as the Jordan Depression. It would next follow the Depression on sea-level. The only elevation along the entire way consists of seven or eight miles at El Ga, and this it is proposed to overcome not by the customary, costly and slowing-up method of locks, but by building tunnels similar to the twelve kilometres "water tunnel" which joins Marseilles with the "inland seas" behind. I have been through this tunnel—I think it is called the Rouergue—anyway, one glides easily under lighted roofing.

With the canal debouching at Akaba, a strategically invaluable naval base would be created at the top of the Red Sea, invaluable alike for the carriage of troops and supplies and for commercial purposes. One has to weigh the project beside the rearrangement of our Middle East defence centre, from Alexandria down to Kenya. This Akaba-Haifa canal would obviously play a leading part in any such rearrangement.

As regards cost. If the United States were to come in on the deal, now that the American Navy and Air Force have come to stay in the Mediterranean, with special reference to Aegean waters not so very far from Haifa, if the Americans became interested financially and on the engineering side, it would be possible to construct a canal taking quite large warships. It would take more time, but think how it would outmode the Suez.

Only 45 ft. deep and 70 yards across, the Suez has trouble even with vessels of 15,000 tons, as I remember from the *Minnetonka*, and when it 's a case of 20,000 tons, only constant dredging allows a passage. No two ships may pass one another, one having to tie up, and the 106 miles takes thirteen hours at the controlled speed of 5½ knots.

With American backing-aid, Akaba-Haifa could put the Suez where it has never been before—in the shade. On our own, the Commonwealth could keep building costs down by limiting tonnage to, say, 6,000 tons. On that basis the capital required would approximate to £80,000,000. More important, the estimate is that if only one-quarter of the 40,000,000 tons which pass each year through the Suez were to transfer to Akaba-Haifa at the existing rate of 16s. per ton, the Substitute Suez would be financially a success.



LABOUR IN CONCLAVE—MR. DALTON AND MR. ATTLEE SEEN TOGETHER AT THE WINTER GARDENS, MARGATE, DURING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF BRITAIN'S LABOUR PARTY: The Chancellor of the Exchequer was a slightly unfamiliar figure in horn-rimmed spectacles. The Premier, who delivered one of the keynote speeches from the platform, giving an account of his stewardship during the past year, was more assured than usual in his manner. He indicated that the tempo of Socialist legislation would slacken between now and the next General Election

MEN OF MARGATE

LEADERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY AT THEIR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"WE MUST STOP EUROPE FROM BEING SPLIT IN TWO": Mr. Noel-Baker, Minister for Air, delivering the speech from the chair at the opening of the Labour Party's Annual Conference held last week at the Winter Gardens, Margate. As regards foreign policy, he urged again and again the necessity for co-operation between Eastern and Western Europe. Seated at Mr. Noel-Baker's right hand are Mr. Attlee, Mr. Dalton and Mr. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health. Mr. Bevan has recently recovered from a bout of pneumonia. He topped the balloting for the Party's new Executive

SECOND THOUGHTS WERE CONSIDERED BEST: Mr. Philip Noel-Baker, the Air Minister, delivering his address from the chair at the Margate Conference of the Labour Party. It was rumoured that his speech had to be rewritten, as he painted rather too gloomy a picture

THE SLOGAN-MAKER: Mr. Herbert Morrison, leader of the Labour Party in the House of Commons, warned the Conference of the need for continuous hard work on the part of the nation. He labelled unofficial strikes as "sabotage with violence to the body of the Labour Movement"

THE NEWLY-ELECTED CHAIRMAN: Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, Minister of Fuel and Power, evokes at once hostility and adulation. Mr. Will Lawther, President of the Mineworkers' Union, declared at the Conference: "The Minister has our full confidence and support"

THE APOSTLE OF AUSTERITY: Sir Stafford Cripps in cheerful mood at the opening of the Conference. With unswerving determination he has pursued his export aims, sometimes in the face of Cabinet colleagues who have urged a greater measure of consideration for the British shopper

A CHEERFUL MINISTERIAL TRIO: Mr. James Griffiths, Minister of National Insurance; Mr. Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. George Tomlinson, Minister of Education. Mr. Tomlinson, former Minister of Works, succeeded the late Miss Ellen Wilkinson, and has the responsibility of administration in the first year of the raising of the school-leaving age. Mr. Dalton, who has been re-elected to the Labour Party's National Executive Committee, was one of the first leaders in the pillory at the opening of the Conference, having to explain to the delegates the background of the Party's latest foreign policy declaration, "Cards on the Table." Mr. Griffiths was made Vice-Chairman of the Labour Party for the ensuing year. He rose to eminence in the Party for his work as a miners' leader. He is M.P. for Llanelly

MR. STRACHEY'S PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY: Dr. Summerskill, the Member for West Fulham, has had a difficult year, often acting as spokesman of the Ministry of Food. She is a member of Labour's National Executive

IN ENGLAND NOW

AS SPRING TURNS TO SUMMER

Morris Dancing at Bampton, Cricket on the Green at Brockham, and Other Old English Customs

THE MORRIS DANCERS OF BAMPTON—MEN OF A SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGE TAKING PART IN ONE OF THEIR TRADITIONAL DANCES: Morris dancing has an unbroken tradition of very nearly 500 years in Bampton, and never a springtime passes without performances being given on the lawns of houses in and around the village. On Whit Monday they also dance in the streets of Bampton

William Morris brought world renown to the Oxfordshire village of Kelmscott, but it is mere coincidence that neighbouring Bampton, not five miles distant, should also be associated with the name of Morris. Bampton is one of the homes of Morris dancing, a tradition far more deeply rooted than that of the pre-Raphaelite brotherhood, and every year, particularly at Whitsuntide, the Morris dancers come out in force. Morris dancing is said to have been introduced into England on the return of John of Gaunt from Spain in the reign of Edward III, and to have been learnt by him from the Moors. In Tudor times it was well established as a festival dance. Stock characters figure in the dance, notably Maid Marian, who is impersonated by a man

DANCING THROUGH THE STREETS OF BAMPTON—THE WHITE-CLAD MORRIS DANCERS, ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR FIDDLER, BRING OLD-TIME GAIETY TO THE COUNTRY SCENE: *Right*—Seaman Shergold, home on leave from the Fleet, joins the Morris dancers as they pass through the streets of the South Oxfordshire village. *Left*—The dancers outside the Elephant and Castle, Bampton. Here the fiddler, Old Jingy, as he is called, pauses in his advance, increases the tempo of the music, and the dancers leap into renewed activity. Old Jingy is eighty years of age, and he has been playing music for Morris dances for over sixty years

CRICKET IN ITS MOST RIGHTFUL AND TRADITIONAL SETTING—A MATCH IN PROGRESS ON THE VILLAGE GREEN AT BROCKHAM, NEAR DORKING: A view of the game between the men of Brockham and the Jolly Rogers, a London touring club. Brockham has a great cricketing tradition, and in the old days it was the custom of the Brockham players to wear straw hats of special pattern, made locally. The club-house can be seen just across the roadway on the right, but on fine summer days nearly all the houses round the green are used as a grandstand, while the church wall is another fine vantage-point

THE RESIDENT GOVERNOR OF THE TOWER OF LONDON ATTENDS DIVINE SERVICE: Colonel E. H. Carkeet-James, resplendent in scarlet and gold, is escorted by the Yeomen of the Guard from the Governor's House to the neighbouring Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula

SETTING OUT FOR ST. PETER AD VINCULA: The Resident Governor of the Tower of London being escorted by the Beefeaters to a Whit-Sunday service which is always a special occasion at the Tower of London. The half-timbered building in the rear is an unusual architectural feature of the Tower. It is known as the Yeomen Gaolers' Lodgings, and was rebuilt in the early seventeenth century. Lady Jane Grey was imprisoned there before her execution

THIS IS A RED-LETTER DAY IN THE HARTING CALENDAR: Members of Harting Friendly Society are played into the village church at Harting, West Sussex, by Chichester City Band prior to the annual Whitsun Feast at the White Hart Inn. The Friendly Society was formed 141 years ago to assist the poor and sick of the village by making them a grant of 1s. 8d. per day, a grant that has been a boon to generations of Harting folk. One of the rules of the Society is that every member shall assemble on Whit-Sunday at the White Hart, march (hazel twig in hand) to the service at the parish church, and then march back to the inn for the feast. This year 110 members took part. In the '80's of the last century Harting was for a while associated with the name of Anthony Trollope, who lived at North End, now known as The Grange

A Foreign Survey

NEWS FROM EUROPE, ASIA AND AMERICA

AN UNCERTAIN SEAT IN THE POLITICAL SADDLE: Tensu Katayama, Japan's first Prime Minister under the new Constitution, was elected unanimously. The election took place after four days of political confusion, taken up by inter-party conferences and much wrangling. It was eventually decided to elect Katayama in response to the pressure of Japanese public opinion, which was growing impatient at the delay in the formation of the new Cabinet. Katayama is the leader of the growing Social Democratic Party

U.N.R.R.A. SUPPLIES FOR COMMUNIST CHINA: Part of a flotilla of fifty-one vessels seen before leaving Tientsin en route to Linching in Western Shantung. In all 2,500 tons of U.N.R.R.A. goods were sent to the Communists and white-cloth stripes were draped across the cargoes in order to free the convoy from the dangers of Nationalist bombing. U.N.R.R.A.'s work in China has naturally been deeply complicated by the continuing civil war. At one time the Communists complained that they were receiving no supplies

ERIE BOULEVARD UNDER ITS OLD ARC-LIGHTING SYSTEM: One of the main streets in Schenectady, New York State, before the introduction of incandescent lighting, as shown in the picture on the right

CHARGED WITH OBSTRUCTING THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS: Boyan Atahanassov (Bulgaria), Kahreman Ylli (Albania) and Stane Krasovec (Yugoslavia) seated together at the recent meeting of the Security Council of the United Nations at Lake Success, when they heard their Governments accused of failure to co-operate in the settlement of Balkan affairs. The accusation came from Mr. Herschel Johnson, of the United States, and he was supported by Colonel Hodgson, the hard-hitting representative from Australia. The three indicted nations have the open support of the Soviet. Belgium, Brazil and China support the U.S. indictment

TRAGEDY IN THE STREETS OF SHANGHAI: A woman looks on with compassion, but the citizens in Western attire pay little heed to the prostrate figure on the pavement, a typical refugee from the stricken war areas of China. During the past three months the bodies of at least 8,000 refugees, all victims of starvation, have been picked up in Shanghai, and the sight of homeless and hungry people is a commonplace in the once prosperous international port. It was revealed only last week that when the Yellow River was changed in course during the war with Japan no fewer than 400,000 people perished in the floodwaters and over 1,000,000 were rendered homeless

"LIGHTS ALONG THE MOHAWK"—THE CITY OF SCHENECTADY HAS A BRIGHTER OUTLOOK: An overhead view of Erie Boulevard after the installation of the new incandescent lighting system making this street one of the eight most brightly lighted in the United States. The new system, installed by General Electric, gives the street ten times more brilliance in the centre and four-and-a-half times greater brilliance over all. Erie Boulevard has an interesting history, for it covers the site of a canal where, in earlier times, the boats were mule-drawn. Schenectady has been a pioneer of electrical development, and it was there that the Edison Works was founded

GERMAN LOOT FINDS A STRANGE RESTING-PLACE: The adventures of some Dutch works of art. Edna Shelley, Secretary to General Lucius Clay, U.S. Military Governor in Germany, and James King, Staff Secretary at Omgus, examining a picture of the Canaletto school, entitled "Grand Canal," after it had been identified as a Dutch work of art looted by the Germans. Altogether six pictures were identified, and all of them were found hanging in the Berlin offices of General Clay and of his deputy, Major-General Keating. The pictures were bought in good faith by the American commanders from a Berlin interior decorator's at a cost of 664,000 marks. The canvases are now on their way back to the Netherlands

THEA RASCHE SURVIVES THE ORDEAL OF A GERMAN DE-NAZIFICATION COURT: The once-celebrated "Flying Fräulein," who barnstormed the United States in the '20's and competed in Cleveland air races, seen as she conducted her defence before a German tribunal at Berlin. Although she admitted having a Nazi Party card from 1933, the year that Hitler came to power, Fräulein Rasche was acquitted on making the plea that her books were subsequently banned by the Nazi authorities because "they glorified the Anglo-American sporting spirit"

AVAK THE FAITH HEALER IS NOW IN AMERICA: The twenty-year-old Armenian (centre), who wears a monk's gown and is reputed to have effected remarkable cures, interviewing sufferers brought to him at Palm Springs, California. Avak is visiting America at the behest of Mr. Arakalian, the wine king, whose daughter is paralysed. While at Palm Springs, Avak has arranged to see sixty patients a day. Seated in the wheel-chair is Antonio Carlos, who suffers from a broken spine

PUTTING THE CLOCK BACK IN MUNICH—GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY, MILITARY GOVERNOR IN THE AMERICAN ZONE OF GERMANY, ADDRESSING THE CONGREGATION AT THE REOPENING OF MUNICH SYNAGOGUE: The ceremony took place exactly ten years after the synagogue had been largely destroyed by Nazi street fighters during a wave of anti-Semitic terrorism in Bavaria. Jewish members of the American Army of Occupation were prominent among the top-hatted German representatives of Munich Jewry. Dr. Ehard, the Bavarian Premier, was among those present. The synagogue contains a memorial to Jewish citizens murdered between 1933 and 1945

A GATHERING STORM AT THE GATEWAY OF INDIA—THE VISIT OF AN AMERICAN WARSHIP AROUSES POLITICAL PASSIONS IN BOMBAY: This was the scene as the American cruiser "Toledo" (towards right) steamed into the harbour at the start of a three-day visit. Already a crowd is beginning to gather, and some hours later, when members of the public were admitted aboard the "Toledo," there were "unmistakable signs of unfriendliness." As a result the captain ordered the ship to be closed to visitors. The crowd round the gateway assumed unmanageable proportions, and part of it nearly got out of control. American Marines and Bombay police went into action in order to restore order. The "Toledo" has since continued her journey to Japan

THE ROYAL PRESENTATION PARTY ON BUCKINGHAM PALACE LAWNS

A Brilliant Social Gathering on an Afternoon of Sunshine

THE KING AND QUEEN CIRCULATE AMONG THEIR GUESTS: The King, in naval uniform, and the Queen, in a costume of pale blue, at their Majesties' Presentation Party which they held last week in the Palace grounds

THE KING AND PRINCESS ELIZABETH WALKING TOGETHER AMONG THE GUESTS: They were followed by the Earl of Clarendon, and numerous introductions were made among the general company as they walked across the spacious lawns of the Palace. The Princess wore a pink-and-white striped dress

THE SUN SHONE ON THE ROYAL FAMILY AND THEIR 5,000 GUESTS: The Queen and Princess Margaret touring the grounds of Buckingham Palace. Attendance at this party is considered to be equivalent to presentation at Court

QUEEN MARY WITH HER HOUSEHOLD MADE A TOUR FOR THE PRESENTATION OF GUESTS: Her Majesty wore a ground-length dress of coffee lace adorned with pearls

Twelve Ambassadors, the Prime Minister, who had returned from the Margate Conference for the occasion, the Home Secretary, and many notabilities in public life were among the 5,000 guests who attended last week's Royal Presentation Party held on the lawns of Buckingham Palace in brilliant sunshine and under a cloudless sky. For the first time since the close of the war austerity was cast aside. Dresses of flowered silk organdie and lace made their appearance, creations which will doubtless appear later in Ascot's Royal Enclosure while the men not in Service uniform wore morning coats. The King and Queen, Queen Mary, who had just celebrated her eightieth birthday, and the Princesses all toured the lawns

ON THE SPACIOUS LAWNS OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE: An unusual view of the grounds taken from the Palace roof as the King and Queen, Queen Mary and the Princesses walked across the grass to the tea tent after mingling with the company. Although the Court is in mourning for the late Earl of Harewood, mourning dress was, at the request of the King, not worn, in view of continuing restrictions

WAITING TO ENTER THE GROUNDS OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE: Some of the 5,000 guests at the gate

GENTLEMEN STEWARDS AT THE GARDEN PARTY: They were briefed in their duties in a corner of the grounds before the arrival of the main body of guests. Grey top-hats were much to the fore and morning coats were de rigueur this year. It is expected that Ascot this year will also return to pre-war standards

FOUR LINES OF CARS IN THE MALL: This was the scene as the guests began to arrive. Skilfully organised parking arrangements along the length of the Mall and the use of a loud hailer enabled cars to be summoned speedily at the end of the afternoon

APSLEY HOUSE, TOWN RESIDENCE OF THE DUKES OF WELLINGTON—AN ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE CELEBRATED "NO 1, LONDON," WHICH, THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF THE PRESENT DUKE, THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF LONDON, IS TO BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE NATION, TOGETHER WITH ALL THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ITS CONTENTS: Apsley House stands beside the Wellington Arch at the entrance to Hyde Park. It was purchased by the first Duke of Wellington in 1820 from his brother, the Marquis Wellesley, Viceroy of India. When the present Wellington Museum Bill passes through Parliament it will confirm the fact that part of the house will be a museum and part will be retained as a residence for the Dukes of Wellington — *Drawing by Dennis Flanders*

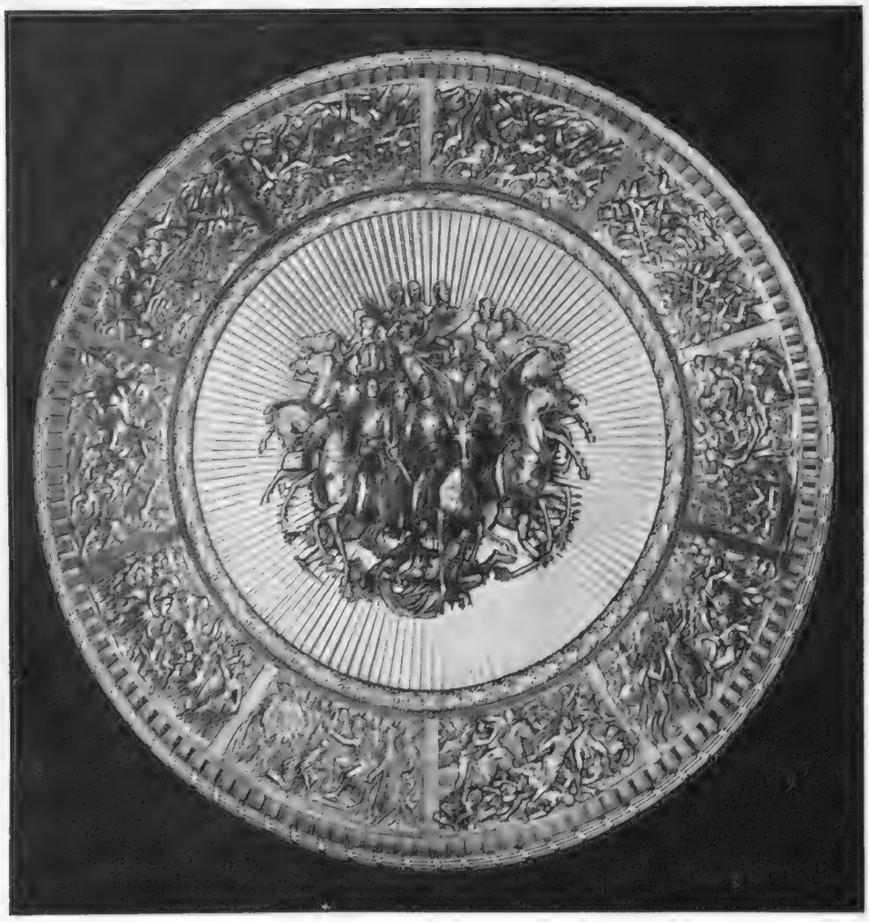
THE TREASURES OF APSLEY HOUSE

The Duke of Wellington's Gift to the Nation

The Duke of Wellington's gift to the nation of Apsley House and the greater part of its treasures is one of immense value, not only because it is fitting that Britain should have a Wellington Museum, but because it will enable the visitor to learn directly something of the way in which the great of the land lived in the last century. The principal part of the building is to be used as a museum, under the control of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and it will also be used for purposes of Government entertainment. Of no less importance than the house are the art collections which it contains. Many of the Apsley House paintings came originally from the Spanish Royal Collection, having been captured by Wellington after Vittoria, and subsequently retained by the first Duke at the request of King Ferdinand VII, to whom he attempted to return them. Three celebrated examples of the art of Velasquez are included in the collection

FIVE YEARS AFTER WATERLOO IT PASSED INTO THE POSSESSION OF THE IRON DUKE: Apsley House as it appears to-day, a classic building on the north side of Hyde Park Corner. In the days of the first Duke it was stoned by the mob, angered by the ministry's slowness in the introduction of reforms. The house was built in 1771-78 by the Adam Brothers, and originally it had a brick façade, to which Thackeray alludes in "Vanity Fair"

THE WATERLOO CHAMBER: This was as it appeared before the house suffered bomb damage during the war. Every year at Apsley House the first Duke of Wellington entertained Waterloo veterans



On left—

GIVEN TO WELLINGTON BY THE MERCHANTS AND BANKERS OF LONDON: This silver-gilt shield, among the many remarkable heirlooms at Apsley House, was designed by Thomas Stothard, R.A. In the centre the Duke is shown receiving a victor's crown. The outer panels record victories in the field

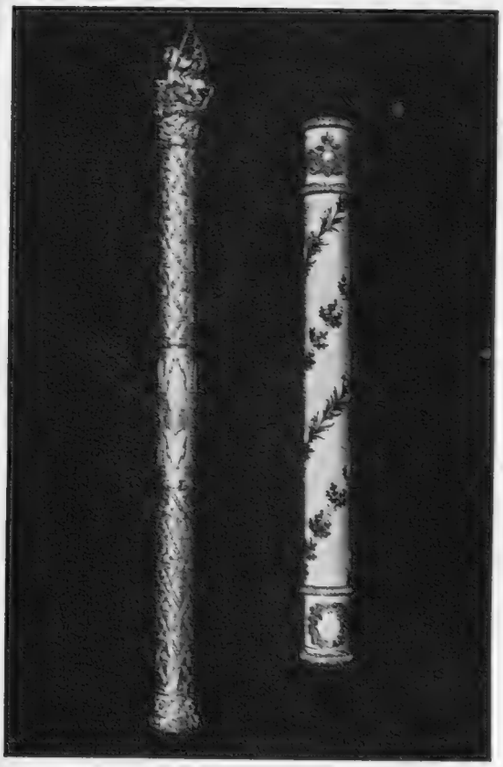
On right—

AMONG WELLINGTON'S MULTITUDINOUS HONOURS: The collar and badge of the Order of the Bath conferred upon the Duke after one of his great victories

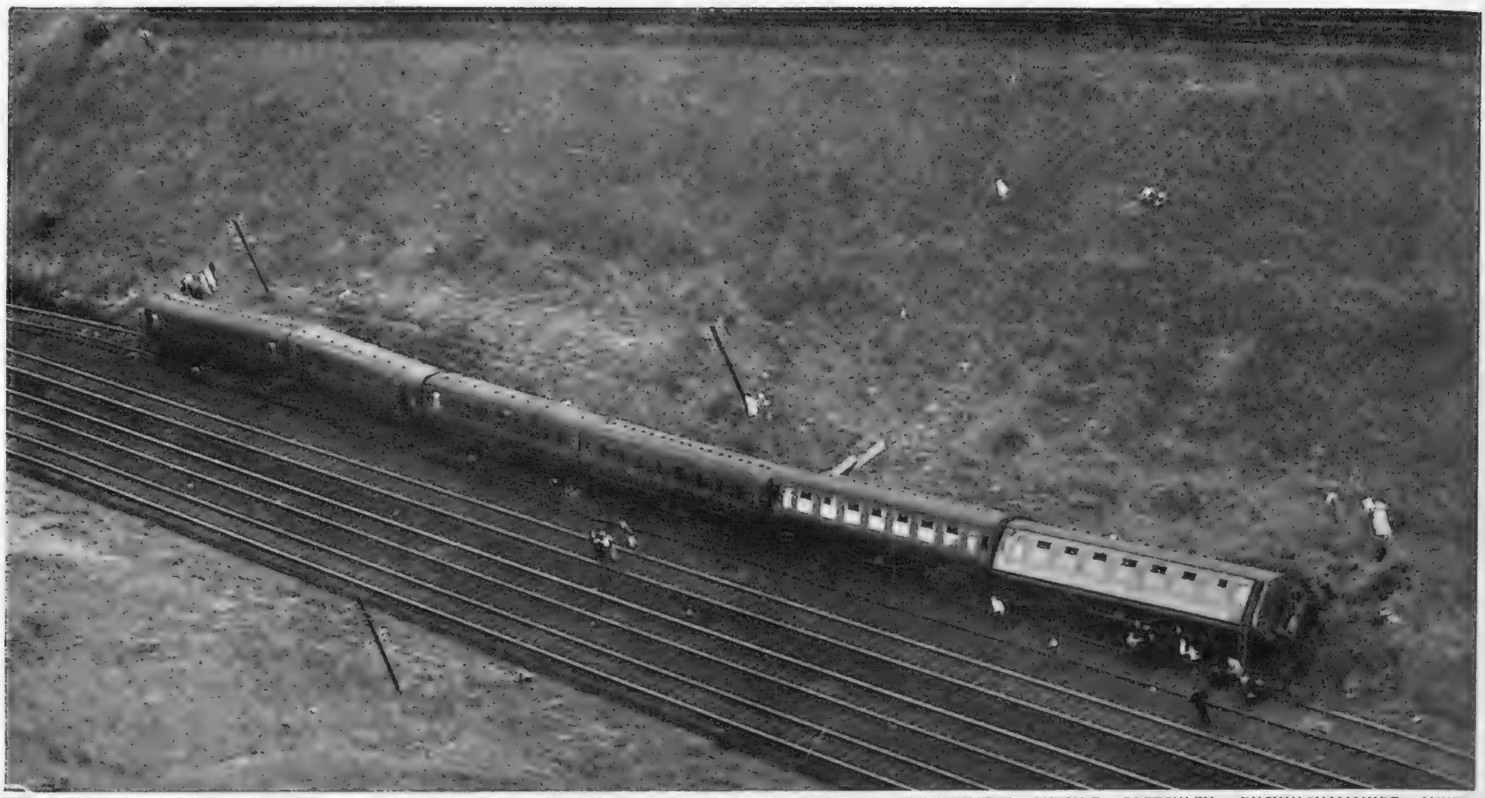
WROUGHT IN ENAMELLED GOLD AND DIAMONDS: The "Great George," badge of the Order of the Garter, which belonged originally to Marlborough and was given by King George IV to Wellington

THE CENTRE-PIECE OF ONE OF THE VAST SETS OF PLATE PRESENTED TO WELLINGTON: This forms part of the Portuguese service at Apsley House. It was given to the first Duke by the Prince Regent John of Portugal. The larger figures represent the four continents

A SYMBOL OF PORTUGUESE GRATITUDE: The soup tureen in the Portuguese service presented to Wellington by the Prince Regent of Portugal, afterwards John VI. Wellington's staunch defence of Portugal, when he held the lines of Torres Vedras, won the gratitude of the whole nation and saved a repetition of French pillage. Much of the massive plate at Apsley House will be used at official Government functions



THE BATONS OF FIELD-MARSHAL: The baton on the left, surmounted by the figure of St. George slaying the dragon, was given to the Duke of Wellington by the Prince Regent (afterwards George IV) in return for the baton of Marshal Jourdan, captured after Vittoria. The baton on the right, of matted gold, was presented to the Duke by Alexander I of Russia



THE DERAILED COACHES OF THE LONDON-MANCHESTER EXPRESS WHICH CRASHED INTO AN EMBANKMENT OUTSIDE BLETCHLEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, WHEN TRAVELLING AT 65 M.P.H.: Part of the train continued up the line, but these six coaches, after ploughing up the track, heeled over against the grass verge. Men, women and children were hurled across the carriages, and although thirty of them were injured not a single person was killed. Twenty men of the Royal Army Medical Corps were in the damaged half of the train, and they quickly set about giving first aid to their fellow-passengers

A RAIL CRASH AT 65 M.P.H.

But None of the 600 Passengers Lost Their Lives

HOW THE TRACK WAS TORN UP BY THE DERAILED COACHES: A view of the rear coach, which sustained the least shock, coming to rest against the embankment at an angle of about 15 degs. Traffic on the line was not seriously affected, as there are multiple tracks at this point and none of the damaged coaches overlapped on to neighbouring tracks

Quite one of the most remarkable railway accidents of recent years took place last week near Bletchley, when the London-Manchester Express, travelling very nearly at its full speed, was split in two, eight of the coaches carrying on up the line and six of them ploughing up the track and coming to rest against the embankment. There were 600 passengers on board the express, and, considering the great speed of the train, they were extraordinarily fortunate to escape so lightly. Of the thirty people who were injured, most of them suffering from cuts and shock, only three had to be detained in hospital. Within three-quarters of an hour the rest of the travellers had continued their journey in other trains. The three other lines on the main-line track were not affected

THE CUTTING ACTED AS A BRAKE AND A CUSHION—THE FIRST OF THE SIX DERAILED COACHES: The picture shows how it ploughed into the embankment and turned over on its side. All the windows were smashed and the injured had to be helped out by means of an improvised step-ladder. The accident occurred in a cutting about a mile north of Bletchley

SALVAGE MEN GO INTO ACTION: Two of the breakdown engineers examining the wrenched-off bogeys. In the foreground are splintered portions of sleepers. The windows of these two rear coaches were left intact, doubtless because of the cushioning effect of the embankment

THE UNITED STATES ARMY DISCOVERS ONE OF THE SECRET LAUNCHING SITES FROM WHICH THE JAPANESE SENT FORTH THEIR BOMB-CARRYING PAPER BALLOONS AGAINST THE WESTERN STATES OF THE U.S.A. : A reconnaissance party from the First Cavalry Division of the American Army of Occupation examining one of the derelict sites in Northern Ibaraki Prefecture, Otsu, Japan. The sites were discovered during recent manœuvres, and they were found to consist of a series of circular launching platforms on which the balloons were inflated, loaded with automatic-release devices and bombs, and then despatched on their mission, which was intended to be the terrorisation of America. To-day all that remains of this grandiose project are the platforms, a quantity of rusting equipment and a number of fine metalled roads leading to the sites. In all the Japanese Government spent 200,000,000 dollars on the project, but it is doubtful if more than a small proportion of the bombs crossed the Pacific and reached industrial objectives in America

WHEN THE JAPS BOMBARDED THE U.S. WITH PAPER BALLOONS

The Recent Discovery of the Launching Sites

Initially Germany made the mistake of underestimating Britain's powers, but by the end of 1940 she had gained a healthy respect both for our fighting men and our war material. Japan, it seems, also underestimated America, and her use of the paper balloon as a means of terrorising the Western states was probably the most futile of all her war projects. The balloon launching sites in Ibaraki Prefecture, which have recently been investigated by the First Cavalry Division, United States Army, indicate the elaborate nature of this balloon-launching project, but it is not possible to ascertain exactly how many balloons were launched on the 4,000-mile journey across the Pacific or how many of them reached the U.S.A. An examination of one of the balloons by U.S. laboratory experts shows that when filled with hydrogen it could rise to heights of over 35,000 ft., thus reaching the prevailing east-west air currents capable of taking it to America's Pacific coast. Whenever a balloon descended to 25,000 ft. through loss of gas, a barometric pressure switch automatically dropped a sandbag, causing the balloon to rise again. There were similar devices for the gradual release of the bomb-load. The balloons could travel at 125 m.p.h., taking 120 hours to reach their destination

A JAPANESE PAPER BALLOON INFLATED FOR LABORATORY TESTS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY : An example of the weapon which was launched across the Pacific in the hope of terrorising America. The balloon itself at a maximum altitude is a true sphere, 100 ft. in circumference. It is made of five layers of mulberry paper, each as thick as cigarette-paper, but strong and water repellant when cemented together. It is filled with hydrogen. Suspended like a chandelier below the envelope by nineteen shroud-lines, each 45 ft. long, is a device for automatic control of altitude. The bomb-load is attached to this chandelier with an automatic-release merchanism. The balloon is further equipped with automatic demolition blocks which are supposed to destroy it in the air when the bombs have all been despatched

THE ABANDONED AND OVERGROWN EQUIPMENT : Members of the First Cavalry Division, United States Army of Occupation, examining the balloon launching sites in Northern Ibaraki

THE BOMB AND BALLAST LOAD OF A JAPANESE PAPER BALLOON : It was attached to a chandelier, and a series of automatic devices, operating at varying altitudes, caused the balloons to change height as they drifted in

THE GOODWINS CLAIM ANOTHER VICTIM

And Other News from Britain and Around Her Coasts

PRELUDE TO A HAZARDOUS OCEAN TOW: The tug "Brockenhurst" taking the American tanker "Tillamook" out of Swansea Docks while the American ocean tug "Farallon" (right) stood by to take charge of the vessel. The *Tillamook* broke her keel nearly six months ago off Sker Point, South Wales, scene of the recent lifeboat disaster, and she is now being sent back to the United States without her rudder or a propeller. For the *Tillamook's* British and American crew of twenty there would be a grave element of danger if she should cut loose from her tow-rope during the voyage

THE ADVENTURES OF THE "MOIRA": In this fishing-boat, seen o arrival at the port of Oban, Western Scotland, three Iris fishermen drifted helplessly in the Atlantic for three week and for most of the time they had to eat seaweed. The *Moir* was on a fishing trip when she ran out of petrol just off the Irish coast and she was then blown far out to sea. The three stranded fishermen managed to rig up some sort of a sail, but this was blown to shreds. Afte only a few days food gave out and it was then that they had to resort t seaweed. Eventually they were picked up by the Fleetwood trawler *Aigre*

THE PLIGHT OF THE "NEWHALL HILLS": Yet another American vessel comes to grief on the treacherous Goodwins. An aerial view of the 10,000-ton freighter after an explosion had occurred in the forepart of the vessel, as a result of which her bows dropped off and a member of the crew was killed. While the tanker was drifting helplessly over the fog-shrouded Goodwins she came into collision with a fishing-boat. At that time she was on fire and her crew of fifty were fighting to put out the blaze. After the blaze had been subdued and the crew had been taken off by the Ramsgate lifeboat, the *Newhall Hills* was taken in tow towards Sheerness

FIXING THE TOW-LINE TO THE "NEWHALL HILLS": Members of the crew, having fought and subdued the blaze, make preparations for the towing of the crippled vessel to port. At the time of writing, the cause of the explosion is unknown

A STRANGE AFFAIR NEAR ORATORS' CORNER, HYDE PARK: Police, aided by a soldier, holding down the man who stripped off his clothes behind some bushes and rushed out into the park brandishing a penknife with which he attempted to cut a cross upon himself. While women screamed, police swiftly swooped down on the scene from neighbouring Marble Arch, and the man was immediately taken to hospital. It was reported later that he was suffering from some sort of religious mania

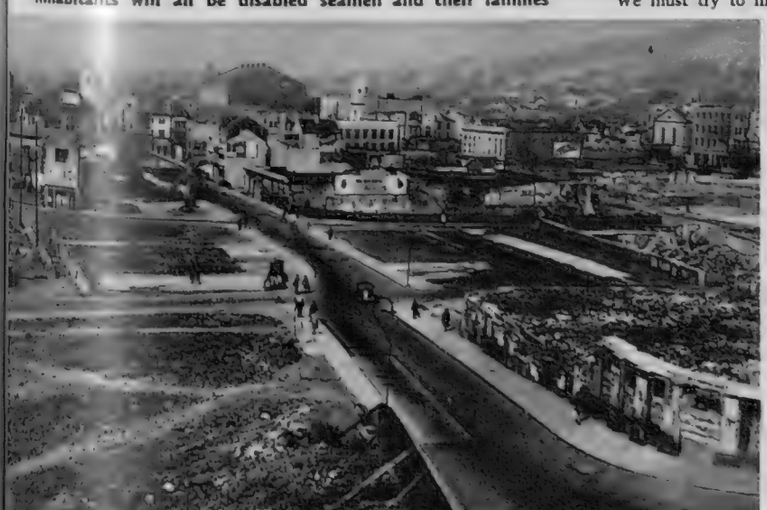
THE OPENING OF OAKHAM ASSIZES: Picturesque ceremonial in a Rutlandshire town after an interval of twenty-two years. The Judge's procession on the way to the church prior to the opening of the Court at Oakham Castle. Leading the procession is Mr. Bouskell, the Under-Sheriff of Leicester, and in the centre is the Judge of Assize, Mr. Justice Croom-Johnson. It is not only twenty-two years since the people of Oakham witnessed the pageantry of an assize court, but these are probably the last assizes in Oakham owing to a decision of the Boundary Commission

MARGARET WAS NERVOUS : Margaret Clark-Wilson was a trifle thoughtful at the approaching ordeal when she prepared to take part in Highland Dancing at Dunbog Games

MARGARET STEPS OUT : Four-year-old Miss Clark-Wilson watches her fellow competitors when, having overcome her nervousness, she took the stage at Dunbog Highland Games held recently at Aytonhill, near Newburgh. This year the Scottish Games are coming right back into their own, and, as in pre-war days, activity will reach its zenith in the months of August and September

THE SPRINGBOK VILLAGE TAKES SHAPE : Men at work on the milking sheds of the village, which is being built near Alfold, Surrey, for former Merchant Navy men as a tribute from the people of South Africa. The village's inhabitants will all be disabled seamen and their families

SOUTH AFRICA'S TRIBUTE TO THE MEN WHO KEPT THE SEA-LANES OF EMPIRE OPEN : A scene in the model Springbok village to which Field-Marshal Smuts referred in his broadcast from Cape Town last week. Describing the village plan, General Smuts said he felt flattered by the suggestion that one of two squares should be named after himself. Houses in this square would bear the names of men famous in South African history, from Bartolomeu Diaz, discoverer of the Cape, down to the present day. "The village will be a tangible and real gesture of gratitude to British Merchant Navy men and their mates for keeping open our pipelines throughout those grimmest years in history," General Smuts added. "Sea communications have always been a vital necessity to South Africa. The perilous task of the Merchant Fleet was carried out gallantly and splendidly, though so unobtrusively that many of us failed ever to stop to think what sacrifice and heroism were behind it all. We people of the Union, every soul of us, owe an immeasurable debt to the Mercantile Marine. We must try to meet it, even if only in part, through this thoroughly practical and delightful village plan"



CREATING A NEW AND FINER SWANSEA : This blitzed area, in pre-war days the shopping-centre of the city, is being acquired by Swansea Corporation under a Compulsory Purchase Order. Approval of the purchase has been given by the Minister of Town and Country Planning, and the Corporation will now proceed with the first phase of the task of reconstruction. This will involve the erection of temporary structures, mostly for business purposes, and later on the blitzed area will be co-ordinated into one vast architectural plan

BOND STREET FOR A FEW MOMENTS BORE A DESERTED AIR : One aspect of the traffic speed-up in the West End of London. This picture was taken in Bond Street at 10.30 in the morning, a time when the traffic is usually beginning to become congested. Under the new system introduced by the police, street signals have been re-co-ordinated, with the amber light eliminated at some crossings, and No Parking signs have been put up on a series of lamp-posts

THE PENGUINS: ARE THEY HUMAN?

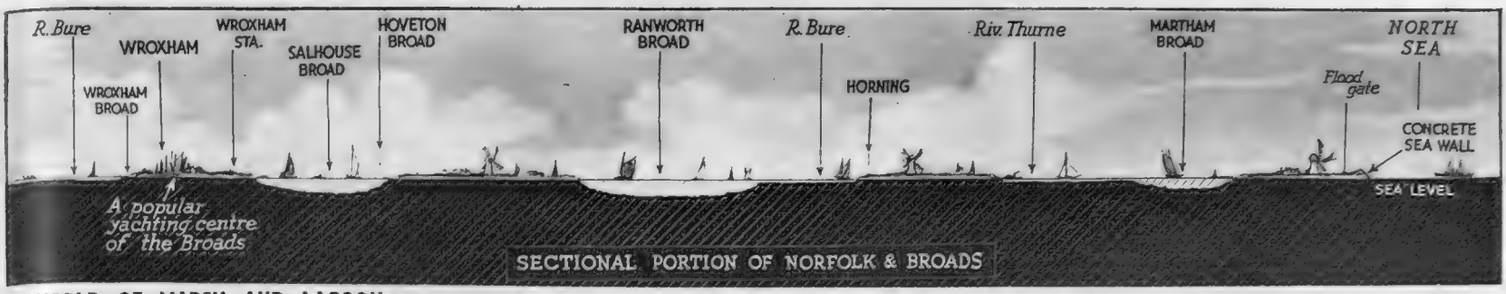
Some New Studies of the Quaint Antarctic Inhabitants

EMPEROR PENGUINS ON LITTLE AMERICA: Numbers of Emperors (the largest of all penguins) were seen on the recent expedition of Admiral Byrd. At the time of Captain Scott's first Antarctic expedition, the only known Emperor rookery was on the sea-ice beneath Cape Crozier

PROFILE OF AN EMPEROR: The largest member of the penguin family weighs between 80 and 90 lbs. when fully grown. The head and throat are black and on either side of the neck is a patch of vivid orange feathers. The curved, tapering bill is bluish-black in colour. The Emperor penguin's food consists mainly of fish and crustaceans. It lays a white egg that is pyriform in shape and weighs just under 1 lb.

AN ADÉLIE PENGUIN WITH HER TWO CHICKS: The two eggs are laid in three to four days; the incubation period is a little over a month. The down of the chicks is generally dark and sooty, but occasional specimens are almost silvery-white with blackish heads (similar to the Emperor penguin chick). The chicks are in constant danger from the Skua gulls and from "hooligan" cock birds of their own species. Many instances are known of the almost human behaviour of penguins; one of the most common being their habit of drilling. They make turns simultaneously; march in compact order and neatly join with other similar formations. Keeping formation, they will march to the edge of the ice, halt and enter the water in batches. They have been observed making up bathing parties and then pushing each other into the water with all the abandon of holidaying human beings at a swimming pool

KING PENGUINS AT THE LONDON ZOO: A new batch, which arrived recently from South Georgia. These birds are about a third the size of the Emperor penguin. They are valued at £250 each. King penguins have a patch of orange-yellow feathers each side of the neck and an orange-yellow chest. The penguins in the London Zoo are all either King penguins or the little, black-and-white Cape penguins. Always a centre of interest because of their quaint behaviour, they are particularly well displayed in the modern "pen," with its long, curved run way. The King penguin is about 2 ft. high and weighs approximately 30 lbs.



A WORLD OF MARSH AND LAGOON—THE NORFOLK BROADS FROM WROXHAM TO MARTHAM AND THE SEA WALL: A cross-sectional view of this celebrated national playground where many holidaymakers are planning to go this year. The preservation and control of the Broads, it is now suggested, should be in the hands of a special Broads Committee with representatives of all the local government authorities, the Port and Haven Commissioners, the Catchment Board, the riparian owners, boating, natural history and other interests, the National Trust and the Norfolk Naturalists Trust all included

THE NORFOLK BROADS AS A NATIONAL PLAYGROUND

How They May Be Controlled by a Committee in the Interests of all Users

The plan for the creation of a Broads Committee, which has been under discussion in East Anglia, would seem to be a long overdue reform, for the problems connected with the preservation and control of the Broads are many and varied, and it is only fitting that all interests should be represented. The purpose of such a committee would be more than consultative. It would be charged with the task of getting things done. The character and value of these waters are in danger from three sources—the violence of the sea, the growth of vegetation and the actions of man. The weakness of the defence against these dangers in the past has lain in the great number of authorities involved. The Broads are particularly vulnerable from the sea because of the inadequate natural barrier on the coast and the low-lying land behind. Another problem is the keeping in check of vegetation, and this concerns the Port and Haven Commissioners and the Catchment Board, who need greater powers to raise money. As regards holidaymakers on the Broads, their interests equally require watching, as do those of the residents, while naturalists also have a stake in this ornithological paradise

WHITE SAILS ON JUNE WATERS: Sailing-dinghies in action on the Norfolk Broads, where the holiday season will soon be in full swing. In the foreground is a large cabin-cruiser typical of the holiday craft operating on these waterways

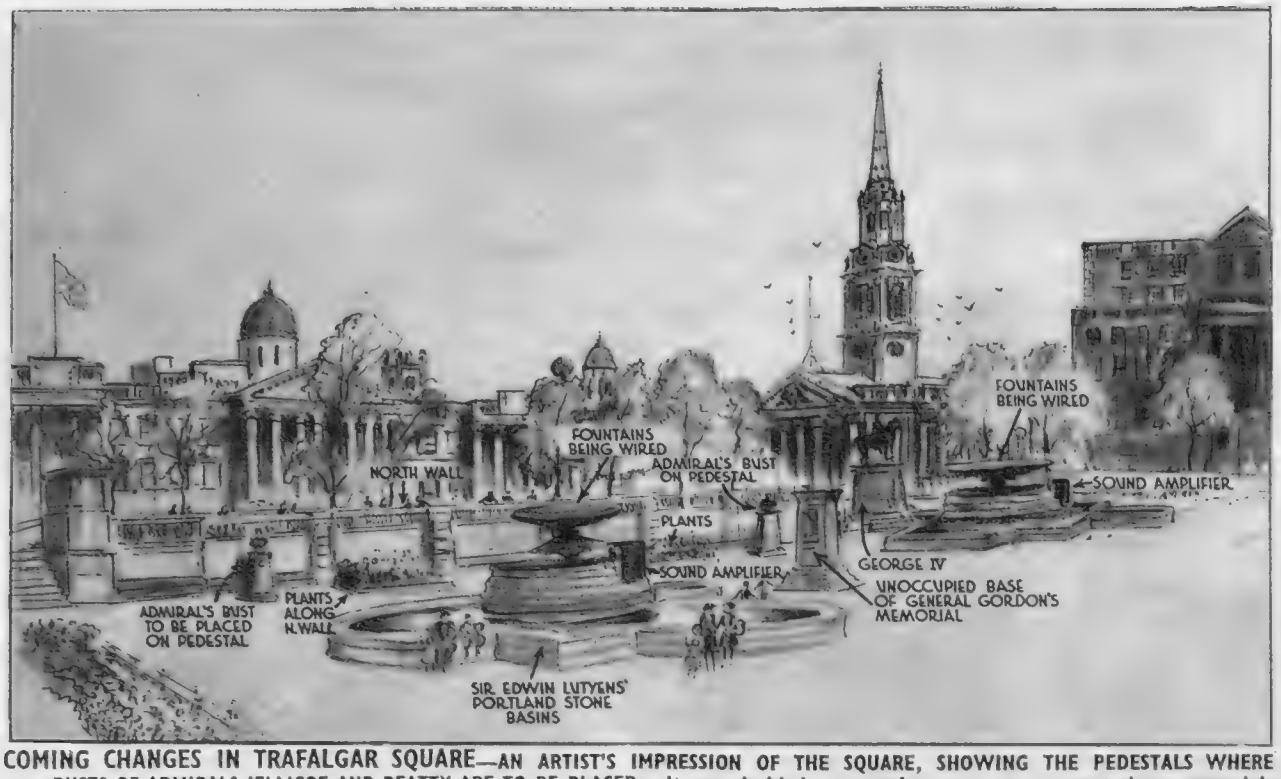
A BIRD-WATCHER'S PARADISE AMID THE EAST ANGLIAN SOLITUDES: Hickling Broad viewed from the look-out post at White Slea Lodge. The Slea Lodge Bird Sanctuary was originally established in 1910, and has lately been acquired by the Norfolk Naturalists Trust. This Trust, together with the National Trust, made an appeal last year for funds to make possible the acquisition of even larger areas among these reed-fringed lagoons of Broadland

A REGATTA DAY ON THE BROADS: Light sailing-craft watched by spectators from the cabin cruisers and other pleasure boats ranged near the starting-point. In 1946 there were about 3,300 craft on the Broads, about two-thirds of them privately owned and about one-third hired. Of these approximately 1,250 were motor-driven, 1,200 were sailing-boats and 850 rowing-boats. This year there will quite probably be even more

A BEAUTY SPOT ON THE BURE AT COLTISHALL: Moored on the right is the "Guinevere," a cabin-cruiser of Yarmouth Yacht Club and a typical luxury craft. The Bure is the connecting link between the various shallow lagoons of Broadland. In summer the Broads are overcrowded, and it is hoped that a central planning authority will be able to look after the interests of holiday-makers and at the same time preserve the amenities of the district

THE CHANGING FACE OF LONDON

Plans for the Beautification of Trafalgar Square; Wren's Bankside Home; A Parliamentary Annexe



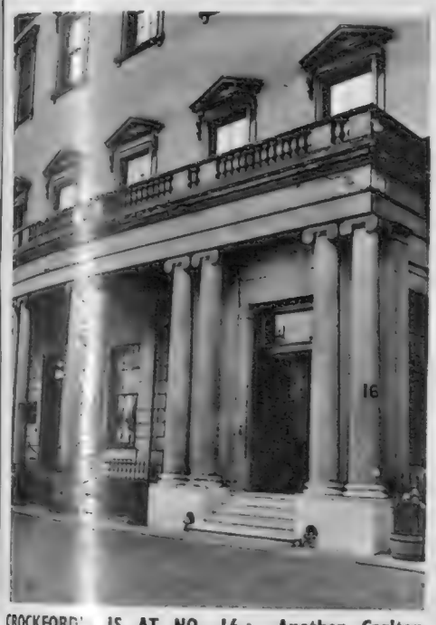
COMING CHANGES IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE—AN ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE SQUARE, SHOWING THE PEDESTALS WHERE BUSTS OF ADMIRALS JELLICOE AND BEATTY ARE TO BE PLACED: It was decided over twelve years ago to erect these memorials at the foot of the Nelson Column, and the Minister of Works is now bringing the task to completion. The Royal Fine Arts Commission have agreed that these busts should be placed against the north wall, and an effort is to be made to improve the general appearance of the Square. The inner basins of Portland stone were erected just before the war to the design of Sir Edwin Lutyens, and these are now to be wired for floodlighting. Permanent connections for sound amplification at public meetings are also being considered. To give unity to the Square, the plinth of the statue of General Gordon will shortly be removed, but the Minister is as yet unable to announce in what other part of London it will be placed. The Minister, in a recent speech in Parliament, said that he hoped to introduce some colour into Trafalgar Square by placing flowering shrubs against the north wall—*Drawing by Percy Home*

GEORGE IV EVOKED A QUESTION: Colonel Goome-Duncan, at question time in the Commons recently, asked the Minister of Works if he would arrange to give a pair of stirrups to King George IV

AN HISTORIC CORNER OF OLD BANKSIDE—THE HOUSE AT CARDINAL'S WHARF WHERE SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN LIVED FOR A TIME DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: It is a strange reflection that the house should now adjoin the power station which, when extended, may (in the opinion of some critics) tend to dwarf St. Paul's, threatening its position of dominance. Bankside, of recent weeks the subject of such intense controversy, has had a sordid history. At one time it was the location of places of amusement, dissipation and vice, and it possessed a bear garden

KING CHARLES I STANDS UPON HIS PLINTH AGAIN—THE CELEBRATED MONUMENT OF THE MARTYR KING ONCE MORE DOMINATES THE APPROACH TO WHITEHALL AT THE SOUTH SIDE OF TRAFALGAR SQUARE: During the war the statue was sent for safe-keeping to Lord Rosebery's Mentmore Estate and the plinth was bricked in. Now the statue has been thoroughly restored in the Office of Works Yard, St. James's Park. Already a wreath lies at its base. The statue was the work of Herbert Le Sueur, a pupil of Giovanni Bologna

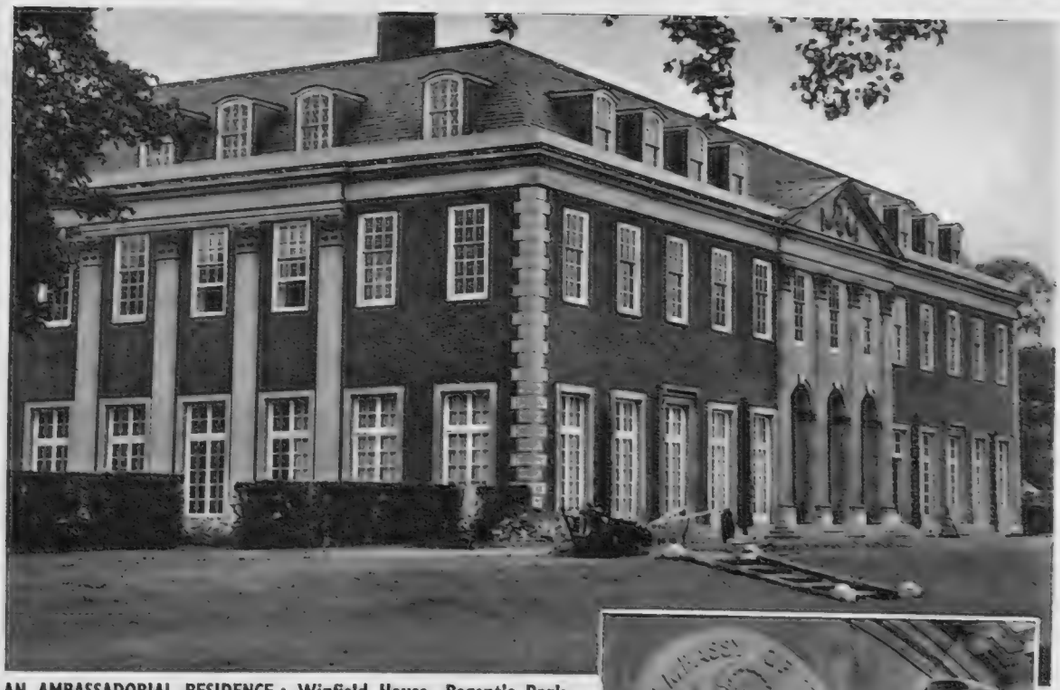
THE SAVAGE CLUB WILL MOVE ON: No. 1, Carlton House Terrace, home of "the Savages," will, together with the neighbouring Union Club and Crockford's, find new quarters when the whole of the Terrace is taken over by the Foreign Office



CROCKFORD'S IS AT NO. 16: Another Carlton House Terrace club which has to move

THE UNION CLUB: This is at No. 10-11, Carlton House Terrace, near the Duke of York Memorial. The Terrace, which is now to be dedicated to the use of the Foreign Office, was built on the gardens of the Carlton House of George IV. No. 1, where the Savage Club has been accommodated of recent years, was once owned by Lord Curzon. No. 11, now forming part of the Union Club, was in the possession of Mr. Gladstone

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IS TO SPREAD ITSELF DOWN ABINGDON STREET—THIS ROW OF QUEEN ANNE HOUSES MAY SHORTLY BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR COMMITTEE ROOMS WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE A PARLIAMENTARY ANNEXE: Even the new House of Commons, with its many fine appointments, will be inadequate to meet all the requirements of Members, and this Abingdon Street property, purchased for £330,000, will be of the greatest value. The house on the left, bearing a plaque, is No. 24, the home of Telford, the engineer who built the Menai Bridge and lived in Westminster from 1820 until his death in 1834



AN AMBASSADORIAL RESIDENCE: Winfield House, Regent's Park, which has been acquired by the United States Government as an official residence for its Envoys to the Court of St. James's. Mr. Lewis Douglas, the new Ambassador, has not decided yet whether he will live at Winfield House

Winfield House is associated in the minds of Londoners with the Woolworth millionairess, Barbara Hutton, who lived there for some time during her marriage to Count Haugwitz-Reventlow. Now it has been acquired by the United States Government, and it is certainly the most modern, if not the most palatial, of all the Ambassadorial residences. Within, the house has been cleaned and repainted, but when interviewed on the subject of moving in, Ambassador Douglas was reticent, indicating that he would prefer his flat

THE AMERICAN EAGLE REARS ITS HEAD AT WINFIELD HOUSE: Mr. L. W. Gotts, the sculptor, at work on the American State seal which is to adorn the front porch

EINSTEIN'S NEPHEW SAYS IT WITH CIRCULARS

He Will Even Put You in Touch with 10,525 Italian Chemists!

By CHARLES GRAVES

ONE of the most entertaining businesses in the country occupies the whole of a large building just off Fleet Street, and yet none of the sleuths of the national Press seems to have discovered it. This business is run by a nephew of Einstein, who arrived in this country with a five-pound note on the day that Hitler came to power; and yet within six years he was employing 250 people.

Most readers of THE SPHERE must have wondered vaguely at some time or another at the numbers of circulars which reach them daily and weekly. The answer is to be found in the office of this nephew of Einstein's. There are two or three other big addressing agencies which send out circulars at the request of advertising agencies, manufacturers, and the like, but the one which I visited recently goes much further. It gives access to the names and addresses of 100,000,000 people in all parts of the world, divided up into thousands of different categories. I, for example, might appear under a dozen different headings—as a Master of Arts (Oxford); as an Old Carthusian; as a member of various golf clubs; as a householder; as someone reputed to be earning over £2,000 a year; as a parishioner of St. Marylebone; as an author; as an owner of dachshunds, and so on. . . .

Any client who goes to the tall building in Bridewell Place is able to arrange for a circular to be sent to the exact class of customer whom he desires to contact through the post. For each category there is a different price for addressing. The addresses themselves are never disclosed, for these are the copyright stock-in-trade of the business. On the other hand, a discount is naturally made for all circulars which are returned through the Dead-Letter Office.

Before the war there was an average of 2 per cent. To-day, there is an average of 10 per cent. owing to the changes of address, not only in Great Britain, but all over the world.

Let us look at the price-list. For £48 you can contact 23,600 members of the landed gentry. The other day a manufacturer of plastic raincoats ordered £48-worth, but after only 6,000 circulars had gone out he telephoned agitatedly to have the rest of the circulars cancelled. He had already exhausted his stock.

How would you like to circularise 5,754 Old Harrovians at a cost of £15? Or perhaps you would like to get directly in touch with 1,185 parents of boys now at Eton? This only costs 3 guineas.

There is no limit to the possibilities of this astonishing organisation. Not long ago a soap manufacturer gave an order for a circular to go out to 12,000,000 housewives in Great Britain.

The fee for this was £24,000, at the rate of £2 per 1,000. (Needless to say, this addressing agency does not supply either the stamps or the paper, unless the latter is specially asked for at an extra rate.) All the political parties in the United Kingdom use it for political appeals; while some of the more intelligent sales directors are now beginning to circularise certain classes of tradesmen like rag merchants, not in connection with rags, but to draw their attention to refrigerators and all kinds of other goods which these now-wealthy gentlemen can afford.

What really surprises Einstein's nephew is that no manufacturers have yet tumbled to the fact that greengrocers, butchers and poulterers are well worth circularising for any comparatively expensive article in view of their new-found prosperity.

For £31 10s. your letters can be addressed to the 2,149 richest public of Great Britain; for 2 guineas you can vicariously contact the 399 richest citizens of Aberdeen. Against this, it costs 7s. 6d. to send a letter to the one and only mousery in England. When Bernard Shaw wished to draw his simplified-spelling scheme to the attention of each Member of the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the Dail, he naturally used this organisation to do it. When an American film unit wanted to circularise a "plug" of their latest film, they arranged for 500,000 postcards to be addressed to likely fans—again through this agency. For it is used considerably by foreign firms, and equally has its own export department.

If the man-in-the-street wanted, for some reason or another, to contact the 291 chemists in Algeria, he would not know how to set about it. But by going to this organisation he can be sure that for a mere 3 guineas he can contact them individually. Three guineas is the price of addressing letters to 145 American chocolate manufacturers; 148 clothing manufacturers in New South Wales; 190 canners in Canada; 30 wholesale drapers in Egypt; or 153 Swedish costumiers. For 2 guineas he can get in touch with 170 Transvaal electrical retailers; 37 Swiss cycle-accessory manufacturers; 98 Norwegian costumiers; 96 manufacturers of china and glass in Canada; 49 Argentine chocolate makers; 198 Irish cinemas; 37 Indian Chambers of Commerce; or 214 Queensland accountants.

One of the more expensive lines is 23,087 Spanish doctors (£115); 10,525 Italian chemists (£50); 15,560 American chemists (£75); and 5,635 builders and contractors (35 guineas). In England the doctors' list is most frequently in demand, and there are eight different "lines" of doctors on the list. For something over 25,000 of physicians in private practice, the fee is £45 3s. There are 302 osteopaths who are circularised again and again for a mere 2 guineas. Lists of dentists, Members of Parliament, Members of the House of Lords, and Co-operative stores are also used week after week. Some lines, like park superintendents, are seasonal. It is naturally in the winter when their addresses are most in demand. On one occasion four different firms offered the same kind of bulbs on the same day, all at different prices, through this addressing agency.

In many ways its business is a remarkable barometer of trade. For example, before the war estate agents were among the agency's best clients for circularising details of the properties they had for lease or sale. To-day, no agent bothers to send out circulars. On the contrary, they are now the recipients of circulars asking for various types of property. Almost every week the 6,058 estate agents in England and Wales are circularised at a cost of £10 12s. 6d., while the 897 in London can be contacted for £2.

Ingenious people frequently get jobs and houses, or flats, by this method. An industrial photographer the other day, who was wanting to start up his business after demobilisation, had the bright idea of asking the agency to circularise all the firms exhibiting at Olympia and Earl's Court during the British Industries Fair. Within forty-eight hours of the first of his circulars having gone out, he came round in person to ask for the rest to be cancelled, as he already had enough work for two or three years. Oddly enough, no enterprising film aspirant has yet thought of circularising the 156 film directors (£2 10s.) or the 115 film producers (2 guineas) in search of a job. On the other hand, they are frequently circularised by jewellers, furriers, and other people with expensive articles to sell.

Catholic priests are circularised twenty or thirty times a year. But the coal-mines have not been approached since 1939. Before the war, whisky merchants and the wine trade generally sent out thousands of circulars. That, of course, has now ceased entirely. Ante-natal clinics have also fallen off, but holiday camps are very popular targets for circulars.

The first post-war list of this agency begins with abattoirs and ends with zoological gardens, the latter being contacted again and again by people who want to sell them bulbs, fencing, horse-flesh, seats, and so on. One client was an insurance agent who confined himself solely to circularising the richest public with details of insurance policies of not less than £100,000 each. As a result of the 2,149 letters he secured twenty insurances — several, strangely enough, from the heads of big insurance companies themselves, and he was able to retire immediately on the proceeds. But how are all these addresses acquired? In many cases the answer is very simple, surprisingly so. But it is not fair to give away the secret. Naturally, all telephone directories, all voting lists, and the normal books of reference are utilised. In addition, there are two people continuously studying the newspapers for odd items which are put into the requisite files. When, for example, it was announced in the newspapers the other day that Professor Goodhart, K.C., had been left £525,000 by an American relative, his name was promptly added to the richest public category. So, too, was a rich American visitor whose name and address were given when entertaining the Duke and Duchess of Windsor at Sunningdale last week. Every possible name and address which can be useful sooner or later is taken down. The births columns frequently give the addresses of nursing-homes; engagement columns invariably give the addresses of the affianced couple, who can be circularised a year later on the fair assumption that they will be interested in baby foods and the like. Evidently, too, the details of wills and bequests given in the "Other People's Money" columns are of great interest to this addressing agency. Nothing could be easier than to buy, like any other member of the public, the catalogue of the exhibitors (always with their addresses) at the Royal Academy. Such addresses can be useful to the manufacturers of paint-brushes and the like.

Unfortunately, many social clubs only give the names and not the so-much-to-be-desired addresses of the members. Others, however, do so, and once again there is another list of addresses which can be sifted and then placed in their proper categories. At the moment big stores and publishers are breaking a seven-years' silence and asking for letters to be sent out. This is the first sign that the sellers' market is beginning to come to an end. But personally, I shall not regard things as becoming normal until I once again receive circulars from wine merchants. . . .

HARDY'S TRAGEDY RETURNS TO THE STAGE—A HAPPY INTERLUDE IN THE HOME OF THE D'URBERVILLES: Wendy Hiller as Tess and Hugh Burden as Angel Clare in Ronald Gow's adaptation of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" at the Piccadilly Theatre. Physically and temperamentally Miss Hiller is well suited to this role of Hardy's famed heroine, and she gives a vivid rendering of a highly exacting part

THE ROYAL FAMILY AT THE THEATRE

Shakespeare in the Park: Wilde at Shepperton: A New Rigoletto

THE ROYAL FAMILY VISIT THE THEATRE: The Queen entering the stage door of the Adelphi Theatre, when the King and Queen, with Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, saw the new operetta "Bless the Bride." This was the Royal Family's first visit to the theatre since their return from South Africa. The Royal party were greeted by Mr. C. B. Cochran and his new partner, Lord Vivian, and were accompanied by Lord and Lady Mountbatten and their daughter, Lady Brabourne

A HOLLYWOOD STAR IN A VICTORIAN COMEDY: Paulette Goddard as Mrs. Cheveley in the film of Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband." Sir Alexander Korda's London Film Productions have imported Paulette Goddard to make her British film debut as Mrs. Cheveley. Cecil Beaton has designed the costumes for this lavish production, which has also brought Sir C. Aubrey Smith from Hollywood to play Lord Caversham, and has Diana Wynyard (Lady Chiltern), Michael Wilding (Lord Goring), and Hugh Williams in the cast

"TWELFTH NIGHT" IN REGENT'S PARK: Kynaston Reeves as Malvolio in the opening play of the Open Air Theatre's fifteenth consecutive season in Regent's Park. Warm weather and a warm reception by the critics marked the beginning of Robert Atkins' season at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park. The green of late spring gave an effective Illyrian background to the scene. This was the third new production of *Twelfth Night* within the last few weeks, the others being those of the Shakespearean Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon and of Donald Wolfit at the Savoy Theatre

A SWISS OPERATIC SINGER GIVES AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF RIGOLETTO: Marko Rothmuller with Daria Bayan in the new production of Verdi's "Rigoletto" at the Cambridge Theatre. Marko Rothmuller, who comes from Zürich, was given a great reception on his opening night as Rigoletto. His performance is notable for the acting as well as for his fine singing. The London Opera Company continues to bring new stars to London opera, but more than one of the company are now firmly-established favourites

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

A BIOGRAPHY OF THE NAPOLEONIC MATRIARCH

Marjorie Coryn's Story of the Conqueror's Formidable Mother and How She Ruled Her Eight Children

THE dark lady of mature beauty who glares, rather than looks out from the wrapper of Miss Marjorie Coryn's new book, is the formidable Madame Bonaparte, of whom her son Napoleon said: "A mother is a man's whole education. She is superior to revolutions."

A SWARM OF BEES (Hodder and Stoughton. 10s. 6d.) is her biography, told with a great deal of the art of fiction, considerable warmth, and a deft suggestion of such background events as the Battle of Waterloo. In Miss Coryn's story Waterloo does indeed achieve a new scaling-down of importance, since the author has been intent only on her foreground figures, and the minutiæ of their daily and their domestic lives.

The result is a book that can be read with pleasure and found reasonably diverting, as a story of a forceful woman and her eight children. As a thoughtful study of Letizia Bonaparte, it is perhaps overloaded and oppressed by the chapter headings, chosen mostly from the sayings of Napoleon and his mother, and having in themselves such significance, and such importance, that any subsequent writing must be tried very highly in keeping up to that standard.

"In the Pantheon of nineteenth-century English novelists there has been for the past few decades one conspicuously empty place. Scott, Jane Austen, Dickens, Thackeray, the Brontës, George Meredith, Thomas Hardy, these have remained unchallenged; and recently . . . Trollope has been admitted to their company." I quote from the opening lines of a new book of Mr. Gerald Bullett's, but it would be interesting to know how many readers could fill in the missing name, or how many would honestly consider that it should take its place with those other illustrious ones.

Mr. Bullett's choice is GEORGE ELIOT (Collins. 12s. 6d.), and in a scholarly and acute critical study, he has given not only the outlines of her life, and a sensitive and penetrating analysis of her character, but a literary appreciation of a very high order. Who now reads *Silas Marner* or *Adam Bede*? And how many people could tell one the subject of *Daniel Deronda* or *Middlemarch*? Probably a comparatively small number, since literary fashion, that fashion that has brought Trollope back into the light of everyday reading, has not yet taken notice of "the most intellectual novelist of her time."

Miss Barbara Goolden takes the title of her new novel from Dr. Johnson: "Words are the daughters of earth, but things are the sons of heaven." DAUGHTERS OF EARTH (Heinemann. 8s. 6d.) is on a post-war theme in which people of goodwill are trying to do their best to help those who have suffered to readjust themselves.

A charming and successful young playwright married to an attractive wife with a tradition of social service in the family, take a married couple of Central European Jews into their household with the best possible motives. It ought to be possible for these two young couples to find a design for living which would develop the best side of Lucius and Dilys, and accomplish the rehabilitation of Rikki and Sally.

But it is not as easy as all that. Lucius employs Rikki as a secretary and tries to draw on Rikki's memories of years in a concentration camp in order to develop the line of the play he is writing. This Rikki cannot refuse Lucius because he admires him so much, but it brings him to a point of hysteria in which all four of them become involved, and which has a tragic end for the Czechoslovakians. The young English couple react with a certain amount of resilience, and we are left with the contemplation of another tragedy of good intentions. Miss Barbara Goolden is always competent, and this post-war story is packed with excellent observation and good characterisation as well as careful examination of every kind of opinion.

TIGER MOTH TRAINERS OVER "THE CITY OF DREAMING SPIRES": Members of the Oxford University Air Squadron flying above the colleges during a recent training spin from their Abingdon headquarters. Compared with only three formed before the war, there are now eleven university air squadrons throughout the country. Each squadron is of a voluntary nature and administered by the R.A.F. Reserve Command. Their personnel consist largely of ex-R.A.F. men now studying at the various Universities, who generally re-assume their wartime rank, while other students are enrolled as officer-cadets. Each student is required to do fifteen hours flying time each term, plus a camp period. Among the prominent landmarks to be picked out in this picture are Christ Church College with Tom Tower (right foreground), Magdalen College and Tower (right background) and the Sheldonian Theatre (left)

I enjoyed Miss Elisabeth Kyle's new novel very much, and found its light touch and its nimble wit, even in the handling of a serious story, more than welcome. MALLY LEE (Peter Davies. 9s. 6d.) is the tale of a young and pretty girl whose crisp and decisive manner has not been exactly dimmed by several years' residence in the United States, and who returns to her ancestral home in Scotland determined to assert her rights, and take over the administration of the property.

In the course of her researches into estate management, Mally comes across an unsolved mystery: the death many years before of one of her aunts. Another aunt, as firm in her own views as Mally in hers, still lives in the family place, and gradually it seems to the girl that the shadow of the old guilt is falling more and more deeply on this old lady.

This is not, in most senses, a crime story; certainly not a detective one, but Mally's own approaches, and the slow but real change that the country exercises over her, are excellently studied, and make this a novel worth noticing.

Miss Eleanor Clark's new novel, and indeed her first, is a strange but distinguished piece of work. Miss Clark is already known in America as a short-story writer, and the scene of the present book is an American city, but the particular quality of her writing is to make the story general and even universal in its application, and the obscure little bank clerk whose tale this is, might equally well have endured the vicissitudes of his life in any city in England or in Europe.

THE BITTER BOX (Michael Joseph. 9s. 6d.) is a serious novel, and deserves serious consideration, for here is a writer who may soon be worthy of comparison with the front-ranking American novelists and, in some respects, is so already. Her Mr. Temple, brought up to a rigid moral code of his mother's devising, and so wary of the antics of unregimented nature that on the finest day he will carry a pair of folding goloshes, is a real creation, and his escape from the brass cage of his cashier's desk, and the invisible but strong cage of his own inhibitions, is as exciting an adventure, on its own plane, as many a thriller.

Mr. E. R. Punshon has turned in another detective story of such extreme competence that I hesitate to say that I found it a little dull. Perhaps that fault can be laid to a sudden spell of warm and drowsy weather, or perhaps to the necessity of a high degree of concentration in the study of this writer's plots. In either case, or both, HELEN PASSES BY (Gollancz. 8s. 6d.) is an intricate and well-mannered piece of work, and a possible stimulus to the alert intellect.

Let me add that Mr. Punshon is not averse from a good hearty Scream in the Night, or a Blunt Instrument or two, in their proper places, and is by no means reluctant to deal with the incidence of violent deaths. His invention, too, of a girl so transcendingly beautiful that all men, even police officers, must love her, is a pleasant fancy.

WESTMINSTER IN WAR

Another "Now It Can Be Told" Book, and Other Reviews in Brief

On screen and stage and on the printed page, the war, it seems, still pursues its way into the peace, and publishers, in particular, give us little respite. "Now it can be told" books pour from the press thick and fast; too fast for most of us, it must be said. William Sansom's WESTMINSTER IN WAR (Faber and Faber. 12s. 6d.), describing how the City Council strove to protect the precious and vulnerable square miles in the vicinity of the Abbey and of Parliament, is valuable documentary evidence, and, as such, constitutes a first-rate report, but it contains much information requiring at this juncture no restatement in book form. The notes on the emergency organisation of mortuaries, the identification of bodies and the tracing of relatives of the dead might wisely have been omitted, while the many illustrations present an unrelieved record of gloom and destruction.

The historian cannot afford to be inaccurate in the slightest particular if he is to hold the confidence of his readers. Victor Musgrave, who has just produced MONTGOMERY: HIS LIFE IN PICTURES (Sagall Press. 30s.), which his publishers describe as a thrilling and unusual departure in the field of biographical literature, makes at least two glaring errors. He indicates that Montgomery appointed Major-General de Guingand to his staff, whereas in point of fact he was already with the Eighth Army when the new Commander arrived, and he indicates that Earl Wavell became Viceroy with the return of peace. Shorn of such mistakes, this book might serve a useful purpose in junior schools, providing a graphic if superficial record, but it is a pity that the standard of printing is low.

In marked contrast is another illustrated book, SADLER'S WELLS BALLET AT COVENT GARDEN (John Lane. 21s.). These photographs by Merlyn Severn, all taken during actual performances, and consequently possessing all the virtues of spontaneity, are, despite a tendency towards over-enlargement, well reproduced, and the volume is attractively presented. The *Sleeping Beauty* (with costumes and decor by Oliver Messel), *The Rake's Progress*, *Miracle in the Gorbals*, and the two new ballets, *Adam Zero* and *Symphonic Variations*, are all recorded with a sympathy resulting from Miss Severn's deep knowledge of the finer points of the ballet.

To write a good technical cricket book demands at least three things: an abiding knowledge and love of the game, some literary ability, and an introduction by C. B. Fry, that prince of batsmen and doyen of cricket critics. CRICKET ON THE GREEN, by R. S. Young (Hollis and Carter. 10s. 6d.), has all these ingredients, and, to make good measure, Mr. Fry provides prologue and epilogue. *Cricket on the Green* is far more than a mere handbook. It is at once guide and philosopher to the aspiring cricketer, covering every aspect of the game, including club organisation, the placing of the field, the individual arts of batting, bowling and fielding, and the rules. Mr. Young is never ponderous, while the veteran Mr. Fry, rapier-like in his wielding of bat and pen, is as engaging as ever. Mr. Fry concludes with an appeal for better fielding. "What a difference it would make," he declares, "if our catching, collecting and throwing were up to the standard which is exhibited in American baseball."

MESSAGE FOR MARGARET, the successful play by James Parish, was produced at the Westminster and Duchess Theatres, London. Now it appears in book form (Allen and Unwin. 5s.). The highly dramatic theme is dominated by two women, the one the wife, the other the mistress, who are drawn together to solve the problem of David Hayden's last words. The strange relationship is one of mounting hate, exacerbated by the fact that the mistress is to bear the dead man's child. Driven to the borderline of insanity by resentment, envy and loneliness, Margaret Hayden attempts to murder her rival. In the last act, the last scene, Mr. Parish provides a credible, and perhaps almost too satisfactory *dénouement*.

SHETLAND AND THE SHETLANDERS, by W. P. Livingstone (Nelson. 7s. 6d.), is a complete account of the islands and their people. The book is admirably illustrated and lays particular stress on the arts and crafts which flourish in this far-northern outpost.

DANCING THROUGH LIFE (Hollis and Carter. 15s.) is the autobiography of Josephine Bradley, one of our best-known dancing teachers and a clever exponent of ballroom dancing. This is a success story, written with charm and a sense of humour.

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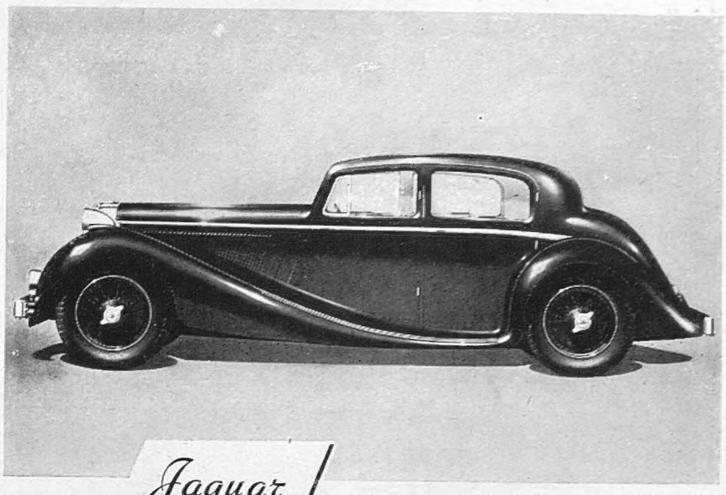

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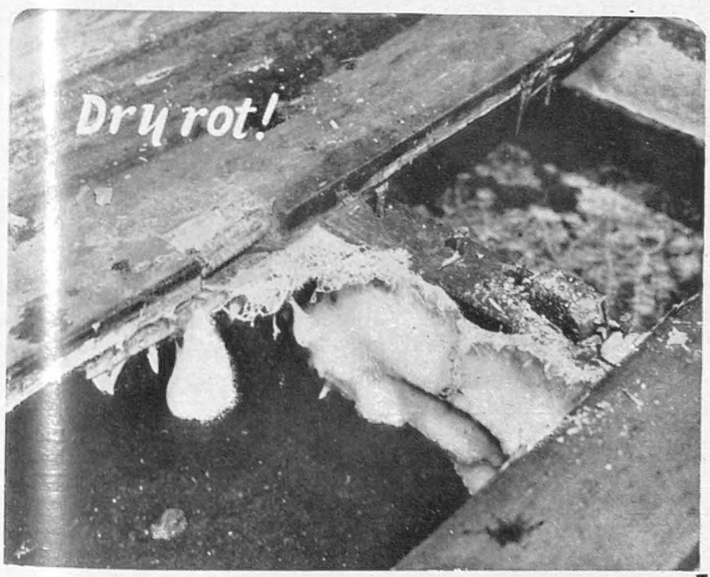

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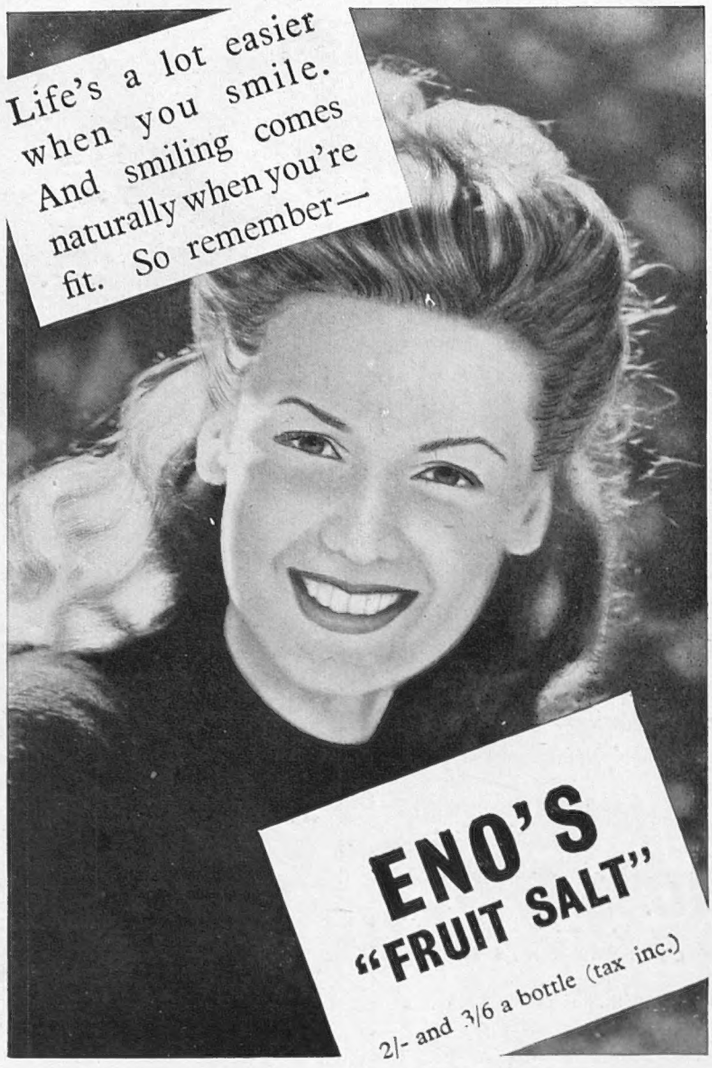

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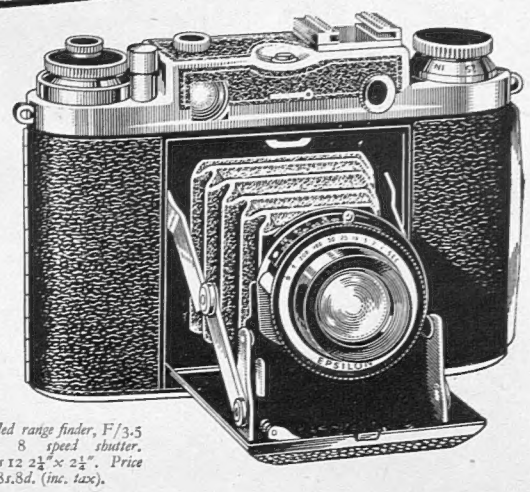

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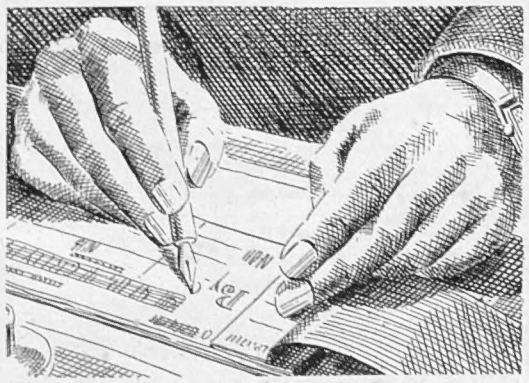

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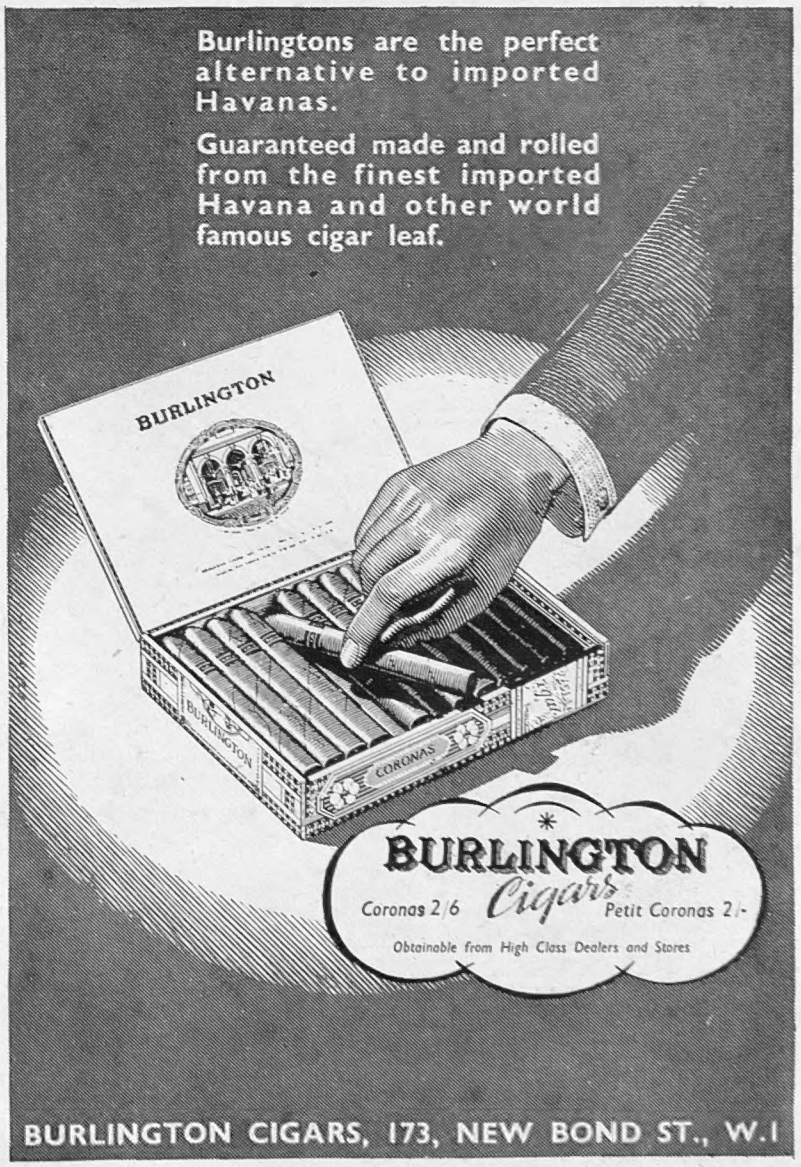

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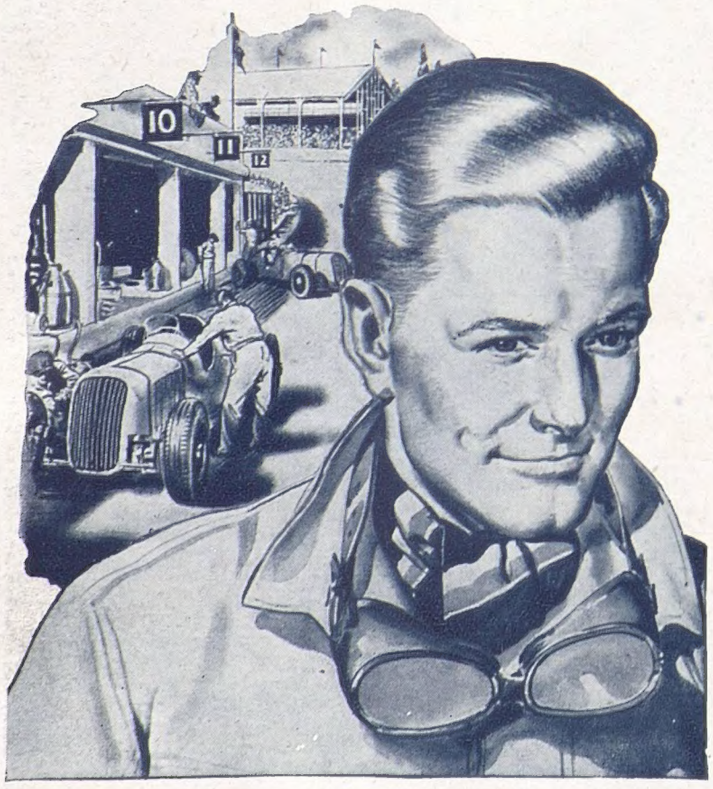

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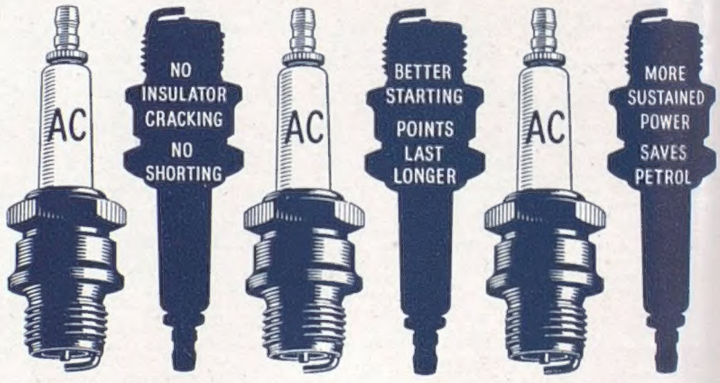

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